



INDEPENDENCE DAY

by

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The World Ends
July 4th

INDEPENDENCE DAY

1 AN AMERICAN FLAG

1

Oddly still, posted in gray dusty sand.

WIDEN TO REVEAL:

2 EXT. LUNAR SURFACE - THE MOON

2

One small step for man, one large pile of garbage for moon-kind. Untouched for years, the flag stands next to the castoff remains of the Apollo missions. Slowly the discarded equipment begins to RATTLE and SHAKE.

AN ENORMOUS SHADOW creeps towards us blotting out the horizon; a loud RUMBLE is heard.

Suddenly we are covered in DARKNESS as the SHADOW engulfs us. Only the lonely image of our EARTH hangs in the air, until a huge silhouetted OBJECT suddenly blocks our view.

CUT TO:

3 EXT. NEW MEXICO - RADIO TELESCOPE VALLEY - NIGHT

3

A field of large satellite dishes scan the skies.

Super up: S.E.T.I. INSTITUTE, NEW MEXICO

4 INT. INSTITUTE - MONITORING CONTROL CENTER - SAME

4

A lone TECHNICIAN works on his putting skills. Behind him, wall to wall technical equipment quietly sifts through data. A RED LIGHT begins to flash.

The Technician turns and slowly walks towards the source. One by one a series of LIGHTS turn on. The Technician (TECH ONE) grabs a pair of headphones. His eyes widen.

5 INT. SLEEPING QUARTERS - SAME

5

Sleepily a SUPERVISOR picks up the phone.

SUPERVISOR

If this isn't an insanely
beautiful woman, I'm hanging up.

6 INT. CONTROL CENTER - SAME

6

TECH ONE

Shut up and listen.

He holds the phone up to a speaker, increases the volume. A strange FLUCTUATING TONE plays out in sequential patterns.

7 INT. SLEEPING QUARTERS - SAME

7

HEARING it, the Supervisor BOLTS UP, banging his head on the bunk above him.

8 INT. CONTROL CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

8

A pajama party on acid. Five other technicians, in various states of undress, hover anxiously around the main console. The Supervisor enters, tying his robe.

SUPERVISOR

God, I hope it's not just another damned Russian spy job.

TECH THREE

(overlapping)

Negative. Computer affirms the signal is unidentified.

TECH TWO

(hanging up the phone)

The boys from Air Res Traffic say the skies are clear. No terrestrial launches.

TECH ONE

It's the real thing. A radio signal from another world.

The room becomes quiet as they realize that after years of searching the heavens, they might have finally found something.

SUPERVISOR

Let's not jump the gun. Run a trajectory source computation.

Tech Three slides over to another computer.

SUPERVISOR (cont'd)

I want to know exactly where it's coming from.

TECH THREE

This can't be right...

Tech Three just stares at his screen in disbelief.

SUPERVISOR

What's wrong?

TECH THREE

Calculated distance from source is at three hundred and eighty five thousand kilometers.

(turning to Supervisor)

It's coming from the moon.

2nd Draft 5/11/75

The Supervisor reaches over and turns up the volume on the speaker. As they listen to the strange TONES we...

CUT TO:

9 INT. HALLWAY - PENTAGON - SAME

9

Elevator doors OPEN revealing four star GENERAL GREY, Commander in Chief U.S. Space Command. Understandably nervous, the COMMANDING OFFICER escorts him down the hall.

GENERAL GREY
Who else knows about this?

COMMANDING OFFICER
S.E.T.I in New Mexico identified a signal but they're even more confused than we are.

The General shoots him a disapproving glance.

COMMANDING OFFICER
Excuse me, Sir.

He slides his security card through the lock and the doors fly open.

10 INT. SPACE COMMAND - THE PENTAGON - CONTINUOUS

10

Banks of computers, Technicians and assistants working feverishly through the night. The Officers cross the room.

Super: SPACE COMMAND - THE PENTAGON

COMMANDING OFFICER
Satellite reception has been impaired but we were able to get these.

They arrive at a glass table. The surrounding officers snap to attention as a SECOND OFFICER quickly brings over a large transparency. We SEE a grainy image of a large vague OBJECT.

GENERAL GREY
Looks like a big turd.

The two Officers exchange a glance.

COMMANDING OFFICER
We estimate it has a diameter of over five hundred and fifty kilometers and a mass roughly one fourth the size of our moon.

The General turns to the Second officer, concerned.

GENERAL GREY

A meteor?

SECOND OFFICER

No Sir. Definitely not.

GENERAL GREY

How do you know?

SECOND OFFICER

Well, er...it's slowing down.

GENERAL GREY

It's doing what?

SECOND OFFICER

It's...slowing down, Sir.

The General walks over to a phone, picks it up

GENERAL GREY

Get me the Secretary of Defense.

(pause)

Then wake him up.

CUT TO:

11 INT. WHITMORE'S BEDROOM - PRE-DAWN

11

Laying in bed THOMAS J. WHITMORE reads a stack of papers. The phone RINGS.

WOMAN'S VOICE

(filtered through phone)

Hi. It's me.

The warm look on Whitmore's face tells us everything about how he feels about the woman on the other end.

WHITMORE

Hi honey. What time is it there?

12 INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

12

Dressed in a night gown, MRS. MARGARET WHITMORE unpacks her briefing papers lays them out on a small desk as she talks. Through the window we SEE Los Angeles at night.

MARGARET

Two in the morning. I know I didn't wake you?

WHITMORE
(filtered)
As a matter of fact you did.

MARGARET
(smiles)
Liar.

13 INT. WHITMORE BEDROOM - SAME

13

Whitmore sits up.

WHITMORE
I have a confession to make.
There's a beautiful young blonde
sleeping next to me.

Sleeping next to him, his six year old daughter, PATRICIA.

MARGARET
(filtered)
You didn't let her stay up
watching t.v. all night?

WHITMORE
Of course not.

The little girl stirs awake, looks up.

PATRICIA
Mommy?

WHITMORE
You're flying back right after the
luncheon? Okay, here she is.

Whitmore hands her the phone and gets out of bed. Habitably
he turns on the television.

14 T.V. - NEWS PROGRAM

14

Several "Pundits" sit around a McLaughlin-type news discussion
program. The picture quality is snowy, static ridden.

PUNDIT #1
...the inexperience in public
office was inevitably going to
catch up with him. He's
sacrificed his ideals for
"politics as usual."

Whitmore ties on his robe as he adjusts the picture quality.

PUNDIT #2

...I said this during the campaign. Leadership as a pilot in the Gulf War has no relationship to political leadership. It's a different animal...

Suddenly the channel changes. A cartoon comes on. Whitmore turns to his daughter who holds the remote.

PATRICIA

(into phone)

Daddy let me watch Letterman.

WHITMORE

Traitor.

Whitmore exits the room.

15 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

15

As Whitmore steps out of his bedroom, a Security guard snaps to attention. Someone hidden behind a newspaper, sits on a bench.

SECURITY GUARD

Good morning Mr. President.

WHITMORE

Good morning, George.

The paper is dropped revealing CONSTANCE HALBROOK, mid-thirties, aggressive, sharp, the President's communications director. Quickly she gathers her things and follows Whitmore.

16 INT. BREAKFAST ROOM - CONTINUOUS

16

Two servants are preparing breakfast as Whitmore and Constance enter. Whitmore sits down, grabs a coffee.

WHITMORE

You're up early this morning, Connie.

She tosses him one of the many newspapers in her hands.

CONSTANCE

They're not attacking your policies, they're attacking your age.

(MORE)

CONSTANCE (CONT'D)

(another paper; reading)
 "...addressing Congress, Whitmore
 seems less like the President and
 more like the orphan child Oliver
 asking, 'please sir, I'd like some
 more.'"

WHITMORE

Clever.

CONSTANCE

Age was never an issue when you
 stuck to your guns. You were
 thought of as young and
 idealistic. But the message has
 gotten lost. There's too much
 compromise, too much politics.

WHITMORE

(pointedly)

Isn't it amazing how fast everyone
 can turn against you.

Realizing she may be pushing him too far, she hands him
 another paper.

CONSTANCE

Well, the Orange County Register
 has named you one of the ten
 sexiest men of the year.

WHITMORE

You see, substance at last.

An AIDE appears at the doorway.

AIDE

Excuse me, Mr. President. It's
 the Secretary of Defense.

Whitmore goes to the phone, picks it up.

WHITMORE

Yes? Say that again?

CUT TO:

17 AN OLD RUSSIAN SATELLITE

17

Drifting away from us the old Russian satellite becomes
 smaller and smaller. We PAN with it as we SEE it's on a
 collision course with something huge.

Suddenly the satellite EXPLODES on IMPACT with the much larger
 object that dwarfs the puny piece of hardware. As huge as it
 is, we get the feeling we've only seen a portion of the total.

18 NEW YORK SKYLINE - EARLY MORNING

18

A slow crane down from the Manhattan skyline, revealing...

19 EXT. CLIFFSIDE PARK, NEW JERSEY - MORNING

19

With the New York skyline across the Hudson behind them, old men sit in this small park playing chess. Unlike the others, DAVID MARTIN is in his early thirties; sixties hippie meets nineties yuppie nerd.

He concentrates intensely on his next move. MOISHE, sixties, smokes a cigar impatiently.

MOISHE

What are you waiting? My social security will expire, you'll still be sitting there.

DAVID

I'm thinking.

MOISHE

So think already.

David makes a move. Instantly Moishe counters his move. David furls his brow in thought.

MOISHE

Again he's thinking.

Moishe reaches into a paper bag and retrieves a coffee in a Styrofoam cup.

DAVID

You have any idea how long it takes for those things to decompose?

MOISHE

You don't move soon, I'll begin to decompose.

Just as David finally makes his move, Moishe counters again. David shoots him a look and stares back down to the board.

MOISHE (cont'd)

David, I've been meaning to talk with you. It's nice you've been spending so much time with me, but...

DAVID

Dad, don't start.

MOISHE

I'm only saying, it's been what?
Four years, you still haven't
signed your divorce papers.

DAVID

Three years.

MOISHE

Three, four. Move on. It's not
healthy.

Moishe takes a big puff on the cigar and coughs.

DAVID

Look who's talking healthy.

Suddenly David's beeper goes off.

MOISHE

How many times is that now? You
trying to get fired?

David moves his queen.

DAVID

Checkmate. See you tomorrow, Dad.

He gives his father a quick kiss and hurries away.

MOISHE

That's not checkmate I can
still... Oh.

(yelling after him)

You could let an old man win once
in a while, it wouldn't kill you.

CUT TO:

20 EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREETS - MINUETS LATER

20

David pedals his bike through mid-town Manhattan. He arrives
at COMPACT CABLE SYSTEMS.

21 INT. COMPACT CABLE OFFICES - LATER

21

His bike hoisted on his shoulder, David squeezes through the
revolving doors. MARTY GILBERT, short, nervous and harried,
comes rushing over.

MARTY

What the hell is the point of
having a beeper if you don't turn
it on?

DAVID

It was turned on. I was ignoring you. What's the big emergency?

MARTY

Started this morning. Every channel is making like it's nineteen fifty. Snow, static, all kinds of distortions. No one knows what the hell is going on.

David deposits his bike in the kitchenette as Marty tosses his coke bottle in the trash. David retrieves it.

DAVID

Damn it, Marty. There's a reason we have bins labeled "recycle."

Finding more bottles in the trash, David turns to Marty accusingly.

DAVID

What the hell is this?

MARTY

So sue me.

Before David can say anything, Marty ushers him out of the room.

22 INT. TRANSMISSION FEED - CONTINUOUS

22

Technicians are working feverishly. Clearly every monitor is experiencing varying degrees of signal disruption. David moves over to the main console.

DAVID

Did you try to switch to transponder channels?

MARTY

Please, would I be this panicked if it was that simple?

David examines the readouts, puzzled.

DAVID

Let's retrofit the dish to another satellite.

MARTY

We've tried. It's not working. It's almost as though they weren't even there.

David looks up, puzzled.

DAVID
That's impossible.

CUT TO:

23 A TELEVISION SET

23

Bad reception. A hand SMACKS the side of it. No use.

WIDEN TO REVEAL:

24 INT. MOBILE HOME - DAY

24

Eleven year old TROY BRENNON tries to fix the television.
His older brother MIGUEL, seventeen, cooks breakfast.

MIGUEL
Stop it!

TROY
It's all fuzzy.

MIGUEL
You're gonna break it. Just leave
it alone. Here, take your
medicine.

Miguel sits a small bottle of medicine and a spoon down in
front of Troy. Troy pushes the bottle away.

TROY
I don't need it.

MIGUEL
(pushing it back)
Just take it, dick head.
(turning to his sister)
Alicia! Make sure he takes his
medicine.

His sister, ALICIA, fourteen, hormones kicking in, testing
boundaries, listens to her walkman while putting on too much
makeup. Miguel throws a dish towel to get her as Troy hits
the television again.

25 EXT. TRAILER PARK - SAME - MORNING

25

A beat up pick-up truck comes down a dirt road and skids to a
halt on the gravel next to the Brennon Mobile Home at this
small shabby countryside trailer park. An angry FARMER jumps
out, slamming his door.

Alicia opens the front door and smiles flirtatiously at the angry farmer, LUCAS, who marches over. Miguel edges her out of the doorway, wanting to handle this himself.

MIGUEL

Morning Lucas.

Lucas holds a bowl full of rotted vegetables.

LUCAS

You like these! I've got a whole goddamned crop full!

Unceremoniously, he dumps them at Miguel's feet.

LUCAS (cont'd)

Where the hell is your father?
You know what time it is?

MIGUEL

He had to re-fuel. There musta been a problem.

LUCAS

We both know what the problem is.
He's a damned nut case, is what he is. I musta been out of my mind.

Troy SMACKS the television again.

MIGUEL

Troy, stop it! I swear to God!

LUCAS

Miguel, if he's not in the air in twenty minutes, that's it. I'm getting someone else.

Lucas storms away. Again, Troy wacks at the television.

MIGUEL

Stop it, Troy! I swear to God!

Determined, Troy HITS the television again. This time the picture goes out completely.

CUT TO:

Rolling over us, the immense under-belly of this enormous craft obliterates our view. A loud SCREECH. Suddenly the bottom begins to SEGMENT.

2nd Draft 5/11/95 13.

Dozens of large sections begin to DISENGAGE, extracting themselves, twisting away from the larger bilge.

The separated SEGMENTS themselves are enormous. Slowly they twist downwards on a collision course to the blue planet below...Earth.

CUT TO:

28 INT. WHITE HOUSE - BASEMENT CORRIDORS - DAY

28

Under a barrage of questions from her own staff, Constance hurries down the corridor.

AIDE #1

CNN is running a story that we're covering up some kind of nuclear testing experiments...

CONSTANCE

Tell them to run with it if they want to embarrass themselves.

AIDE #2

NASA has been up my butt all morning. They want to know our position.

CONSTANCE

Our Official position is we don't have an official position.

AIDE #3

Connie, what the hell is going on?

Constance escapes into the elevator, turns around.

CONSTANCE

(smiles confidently)

Come on, people. Would I keep you guys out of the loop?

AIDE 1

In a second!

AIDE 2

Absolutely!

Before she can retort, the elevator doors close.

29 INT. OVAL OFFICE - WIDE SHOT - SAME

29

The President, General Grey, the SECRETARY OF DEFENSE and White House Chief of Staff ALBERT NIMZIKI are gathered around the couch.

SEC. OF DEFENSE

At the moment, our satellites are somewhat unreliable. Isn't it possible that thing may just pass us by?

NIMZIKI

What if it doesn't "pass us by?" Let's retarget some ICBMs to blow it out of the sky...

GENERAL GREY

Forgive me, but with the little information we do have, the only thing that would accomplish is turn one dangerous falling object into many.

Just then the door opens and Constance enters.

PRESIDENT WHITMORE

What's the damage?

CONSTANCE

The press is making up their own stories at this point.

NIMZIKI

(To General Grey)
Get on the horn with Atlantic Command. Let's upgrade the situation to DEFCON 3.

GENERAL GREY

That's not your call to make, Mr. Nimziki.

CONSTANCE

Isn't that a little premature?

NIMZIKI

I don't think so.

SEC. OF DEFENSE

We're two days away from the fourth of July. We

have over fifty percent of our armed forces on weekend leave, not to mention the troops and commanders we have in town for the Fourth of July parade. We call them back now, we're sending up a major red flag.

The goes quiet as Commanding Officer from Space Command dashes into the room.

COMMANDING OFFICER

Our intelligence tells us the object has settled into a stationary orbit.

NIMZIKI
Well that's good news.

COMMANDING OFFICER
Not really.

He lays out the diagrams and photos on the table. Everyone gathers around.

COMMANDING OFFICER
Part of it has broken off into nearly three dozen other pieces.

PRESIDENT WHITMORE
Pieces?

COMMANDING OFFICER
Smaller than the whole, yet over fifteen miles in width themselves.

NIMZIKI
Where are they heading?

COMMANDING OFFICER
They should be entering our atmosphere within the next twenty five minutes.

The room is silenced. All eyes turn to the President who says nothing. Nimziki leans in close to him.

NIMZIKI
Like it or not, we're at DEFCON 3. Recall the troops and put them on yellow alert.

CUT TO:

30 YELLOW LIGHTS FLASHING ON 30

as an ALARM quickly BUZZES. David leans into frame and opens the door to the microwave. We WIDEN to reveal...

31 INT. DAVID'S CUBICLE - COMPACT CABLE - DAY 31

David retrieves his home-make cup-a-soup. We SEE this cubicle clearly has the David touch; ecology posters, plants, tons of computers and electronic gizmos.

MARTY
Please, tell me you're getting somewhere.

Marty enters, looking over David's shoulder as he eats.

DAVID

There's good news and bad news.

MARTY

What's the bad news?

DAVID

You're in meal penalty for disturbing my lunch.

MARTY

And the good news is you won't charge me.

DAVID

No. The good news is I found the problem and it's not our equipment. There's some weird signal embedded within the satellite feed.

MARTY

That's the good news?

David slides over to another computer and turns on an intricate computation program.

DAVID

Yes because the analog signal has a definite sequential digital pattern embedded within it. When I find the exact binary sequence and I apply a phase reversed signal to that calculated spectra analyzer I built you last Christmas, we should be able to block out the overlay completely...

MARTY

...and we'll be the only guys in town with a clear picture? That's my man.

CUT TO:

32 EXT. CALIFORNIA FARMLANDS, IMPERIAL VALLEY - DAY

32

Racing over back roads behind a long open field, Miguel rides his beat up motor bike, searching. Looking up he SEES something in the air.

converted into a crop-duster, BUZZES overhead. Spraying insecticide wildly, the plane zigzags over the field.

MIGUEL
(yelling)
Russell! God damn it, Russell!

Looking down from the cockpit, RUSSELL BRENNON waves stupidly. Shaggy blonde hair and two day's growth, Russell is the image of a fifty one year old little boy.

Miguel follows him below, screaming at him. Russell, flying recklessly, looks down at Miguel not understanding. By the time he looks back he SEES...

at the edge of the field, nearly on top of him. In a trick move, Russell turns the plane on ITS SIDE, and SLICES through the narrow gap between the trees.

Russell screams with delight at his prowess. Miguel looks pissed.

Miguel races over, skidding to a halt next to the landed Bi-wing plane.

MIGUEL
Just what the hell do you think
you're doing?

RUSSELL
(climbing down)
I'm bringing home the bacon.
Earning my keep. And doing a fine
job if I do say so myself.

MIGUEL
It's the wrong field, you idiot!
Lucas' farm is on the other side
of town.

RUSSELL
You sure?

MIGUEL
Damn it, he was doing you a favor.
You know how hard it is to find
someone who doesn't think your
completely crazy?

(MORE)

MIGUEL (CONT'D)

What are we supposed to do now?
Huh? Where are we supposed to go
now?

Pissed, Miguel peels away, kicking gravel back at Russell. Pathetically, he reaches into his jacket and pulls out a bottle of Jack Daniels. He takes a healthy swig.

CUT TO:

36 EXT. IRAQI DESERT - REFUGEE CAMP - NIGHT

36

A tent city. Ubiquitous overcrowding and poverty. Several hundred refugees settle down for the night.

Super: Northern Desert, Iraq

A BEDOUIN stokes a small fire besides his family's tent. Suddenly a group of shouting SCREAMING TRIBES PEOPLE come rushing past him.

The Bedouin watches them with confusion. Overcome with curiosity he goes against the tide of people, up the hillside.

As the Bedouin reaches the top of the hillside, his mouth falls open, aghast as he SEES...

37 THE SKIES - THE PHENOMENON

37

Creeping from across the horizon above the rocky mountain terrain, a wide FIREBALL high in the sky, flaring and exploding. A terrifying sight.

CUT TO:

38 EXT. USS EISENHOWER - AIR CARRIER - ESTABLISHING - DAWN

38

Super up: Battle Carrier, USS Eisenhower - Persian Gulf

39 INT. USS EISENHOWER - RADAR ROOM - DAY

39

A loud KLAXON ALARM is ringing out. The FIRST LIEUTENANT comes rushing in.

LIEUTENANT

Ensign, status?

SAILOR #1

We have a total radar black out
over a thirteen kilometer area.

The Lieutenant moves over to the main radar screen. The entire upper portion of the screen is BLANK. And the blank area is MOVING.

LIEUTENANT
Have a complete diagnostic run...

SAILOR #1
Excuse me sir, radar may be
malfunctioning but infrared is off
the map!

He diverts the Lieutenant's attention to another screen; A
BRIGHT SEA OF RED light bleeds off the map.

LIEUTENANT
Get the CINC Atlantic Command on
the line.

CUT TO:

40 INT. PENTAGON - COMMAND CENTER - DAY

40

A technical OFFICER rips off a data sheet as it shoots out of
the printer and rushes over to the Commanding Officer.

OFFICER
Sir, we now have visual range with
incoming over Iraqi airspace.

COMMANDING OFFICER
A second sighting?

OFFICER
Yes Sir, this just came in from
the Eisenhower.

The Commanding Officer grabs a phone laying off the hook.

COMMANDING OFFICER
Correction, we have two confirmed
visual contacts. One over Iraq,
one over the Pacific.

41 INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

41

The room is packed. The President and his Chief advisors are
there along with the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Representatives
from the Atlantic Command and U.S. Space Command have formed
small clusters around telephones.

GENERAL GREY
Where in the Pacific?
(turning to the President)
They've spotted one off the
California coast line.

Surrounded by the Secret Service, the President is speechless. Constance Halbrook comes rushing into the room and whispers to the President.

PRESIDENT

Put it on.

Constance moves over to a cabinet and turns on the t.v. (the reception is still fuzzy, picture "rolling"). The CNN News broadcast shows the phenomenon over Novosibirsk, Russia. There is mass hysteria behind the reporter.

NEWSCASTER

(filtered)

...sightings of this atmospheric phenomenon have been reported here in Novosibirsk, Russia and other parts of Siberia. Moving too slowly to be a comet or meteor, astronomers are baffled as to its origin...

Everyone is locked onto the television, mesmerized.

NEWSCASTER (cont'd)

(filtered)

...Widespread panic has gripped the countryside as thousands have taken to the streets and clogged the highways. Hundreds have been injured...

General Grey confers with the Atlantic command CINC. He nods, turns to the President and whispers.

GENERAL GREY

Mr. President, we have an AWAC on the west coast. E.T.A with contact point, three minutes.

42 INT. AWAC AIRPLANE - DAY

42

Wall to wall computer, radar and intelligence gathering equipment. Technicians frantically try to adjust as the system goes hay wire.

RADAR TECH 1

(reporting into radio)

It's no use. Side radar doesn't see a thing!

RADAR TECH 2

(reporting)

That's correct. We're IMC blind, Sir.

We TRACK across them over to the pilots and into the cockpit. Cloudy skies. The PILOT squints out the window as he speaks.

PILOT
(into radio)
Negative. We still have zero
visibility.

43 EXT. AWAC AIRPLANE - CLOUDY SKIES - DAY 43

ZOOMING overhead we SEE the AWAC sailing through a thick cloudy sky.

Super: Pacific Coastline, California

The AWAC disappears from view into the clouds.

44 INT. OVAL OFFICE - SAME 44

The President and his top advisors are gathered around a speaker phone listening to the pilot of the AWAC.

PILOT
(filtered)
Instrumentation is malfunctioning.
We can't get any kind of reading
on what's in front of us.

45 INT. AWAC - SAME 45

The Pilot squints as he tries to see through the clouds.

PILOT
Wait a minute, it may be clearing.

Suddenly the clouds part before us and we're face to face with a WALL OF FLAMES.

46 INT. OVAL OFFICE - SAME 46

The speaker phone crackles and distorts.

PILOT
(filtered)
Jesus God! The sky's on fire!

47 EXT. AWAC AND PHENOMENON - SAME 47

The AWAC attempts to climb sharply as we get our first real look at the atmospheric phenomenon. Majestic and monstrous. The AWAC is not going to be able to make it.

Quickly it is ENGULFED in the flames.

48 INT. OVAL OFFICE - SAME 48

The phone line goes dead. General Grey spins to an AIDE.

GENERAL GREY
Get them back on line.

AIDE #1
(on other phone)
Line's gone, sir.

The ATLANTIC COMMAND CINC, turns from a different phone.

AAC CINC
Two more have been spotted over
the Atlantic. One is moving
toward New York, the other is
headed this direction.

CHIEF OF STAFF
How much time do we have?

AAC CINC
Less than ten minutes.

NIMZIKI
(turning to aid)
Organize a military
escort to Crystal
Mountain.

GENERAL GREY
(to President)
Sir, I strongly recommend
we move you to a secured
location immediately.

....The President hesitates, he turns to Constance.

PRESIDENT
Can we expect the same kind of
panic here as in Russia?

CONSTANCE
More than likely.

NIMZIKI
Mr. President, you can discuss
this on the way.

Torn, the President grapples with a decision. Finally...

PRESIDENT WHITMORE
I'm not leaving.

NIMZIKI
We must maintain a working
government in a time of crisis...

PRESIDENT WHITMORE
I want the Vice President,
Secretary of Defense, the whole
Cabinet and the Joint Chiefs taken
to a secured location.
(MORE)

PRESIDENT WHITMORE (CONT'D)

I'm staying here. I am not going
to add to a public hysteria that
could cost lives.

NIMZIKI

But Mr. President...

PRESIDENT

So far these things have not
become hostile. For the moment
let's assume they won't.

(to Constance)

Connie, let's issue statements
advising people not to panic, to
stay home and take cover.

Constance issues some commands to her staff as they quickly
exit along with most people in the room. General Grey goes
over to the President.

GENERAL GREY

With your permission, Mr.
President, I'd like to remain by
your side.

PRESIDENT WHITMORE

I had a feeling you would.

GENERAL GREY

Sir, what happens if they do
become hostile?

PRESIDENT WHITMORE

Then God help us.

CUT TO:

49 INT. DAVID'S CUBICLE - DAY

49

On the T.V. behind David, news footage of the phenomenon in
Russia plays silently. Oblivious, David works his computers.

FEMALE CO-WORKER

(stopping in doorway)

David, are you watching this?

David waves her away, deep in concentration. Suddenly a
computer BEEPS. Excitedly David prints out his findings. He
grabs it and exits.

50 INT. COMPACT CABLE OFFICES - CONTINUOUS

50

Engrossed in his printout, David walks past his co-workers who
are glued to the distorted picture on the television, watching
the phenomenon.

51 INT. MARTY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

51

Marty stares at his television watching General Grey addressing the press. David enters, staring at his reading.

DAVID

I've got a lock on the signal pattern. We can filter it out.

MARTY

(distracted)

Huh? Oh, good, good.

DAVID

Strange thing is, if my calculations are right it'll be gone in approximately seven hours anyway. The signal reduces itself every time it recycles. Eventually it will disappear. Are you listening?

MARTY

(still glued to t.v.)

Can you believe this?

DAVID

What are you talking about?

MARTY

Haven't you been watching?

David turns for the first time to the television and sees the phenomenon. Constance comes on addressing the press.

CONSTANCE

(filtered)

...so far the phenomenon has not caused any damage. In all likelihood it won't...

52 INT. WHITE HOUSE PRESS ROOM - SAME

52

More reporters rush in from the back quickly setting up as this hastily called press conference continues.

CONSTANCE

...everyone should remain calm. Take cover where you can but the important thing is not to panic...

53 INT. BRENNON MOBILE HOME - SAME

53

Miguel, Alicia and Troy watch the static riddled t.v.

CONSTANCE
(filtered)
...we have a fix on three
different occurrences about to
appear over American cities. One
is headed towards Los Angeles...

54 INT. MARTY'S OFFICE - SAME

54

CONSTANCE
(filtered)
...the other two are on our
Eastern seaboard headed towards
New York and Washington, D.C....

Suddenly hectic CO-WORKER #2 appear at the door.

CO-WORKER #2
Jamie says this building has an
old bomb shelter. We're heading
down there now.

002218
MARTY
(dry; to David)
Feel no shame in hiding.

55 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

55

A crowd of people head down the hall for the shelter while
others stay glued to the set. There is a mix of fascination
and panic. David watches the commotion, dumb struck.

MARTY
Oh shit, I better call my wife.

55A INT. AIRPORT DINER - LATE MORNING

55A

Depressed Russell nurses a beer at the counter. Three FLIGHT
MECHANICS walk in, having a good laugh. One of them spots
Russell and moves over to him.

MECHANIC #1
Hey, Russ, heard you had a little
trouble this morning. Dusted the
wrong field?

The Mechanics laugh. Russell tries to ignore them.

MECHANIC #1
I know, you're probably still a
little confused from your hostage
experience.

MECHANIC #2

Hostage experience? Something
happen to you Russ?

MECHANIC #1

He ain't never told you!? Seems
years back our boy here had been
kidnapped by aliens. Did all
kinds of experiments on him and
such. Tell him, Russ.

RUSSELL

Not today guys. Okay.

Russell gets up and heads for the door.

MECHANIC #1

You just gotta get a couple more
beers in him, he'll tell you all
about it. Crazy stuff. Won't
you, Russ?

55B EXT. SMALL AIRPORT - CONTINUOUS

55B

The Mechanic follows Russell outside, his buddies in tow.

MECHANIC #1

Hey, Russ, when they took you up
in their space ship, they do any
sexual things to you?

The mechanics crack up laughing. Suddenly the around them
begin to RUMBLE. The SHADOW engulfs them, silencing the
Mechanics.

Panicked they turn and RUN AWAY. Russell just looks up at the
sky, grabs his Jack Daniels and takes another swig.

56 EXT. TRAILER PARK - SAME

56

Dogs bark and people stumble out of their trailers as an
enormous SHADOW creeps over them.

57 INT. BRENNON MOBILE HOME - CONTINUOUS

57

The windows grow DARK and the room begins to RUMBLE. Miguel
rushes to the door, ushering his siblings out.

58 EXT. TRAILER PARK - CONTINUOUS

58

Alicia and Troy step out the door, stopping dead in their
tracks. Miguel follows them only to look up and SEE...

59 THE PHENOMENON - DARK CLOUDS

59

The flames are burning out, replaced by huge plumes of dark smoke billowing around the edges of the phenomena. Only small traces of extinguishing flames illuminate it.

60 INT. COMPACT CABLE - STAIRWELL - SAME

60

David pushes past the people making their way down, fighting against the tide. Another CO-WORKER (#3) stops halfway.

CO-WORKER #3
Aren't you coming, David?

DAVID
No way, I've got to see this.

61 OMITTED

61

62 EXT. WASHINGTON MONUMENT - SAME

62

Frightened tourists run for cover as the colossal SHADOW approaches. Reflected in the water below we SEE the fiery apparition transfigure into the dark foreboding clouds.

63 THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL - WASHINGTON, D.C. - SAME

63

The SHADOW writhes up the detailed statue of Lincoln, devouring him completely until we are left in total darkness.

64 INT. WHITE HOUSE - HALLWAYS - SAME

64

People are being evacuated from their offices. Patricia, the President's daughter, breaks away from her nanny.

65 INT. WHITE HOUSE - OVAL OFFICE - SAME

65

The President talks on the phone. Constance waits nearby.

PRESIDENT WHITMORE
(into phone)
Of course, Russia and the United States are in this together. Yes, Mr. President, you have my word. Yes, Das Vedanya.

The President hangs up.

CONSTANCE
What is their position?

PRESIDENT WHITMORE
I think he was drunk.

Patricia bursts through the door and runs into her father's arms, terrified. A SECRET SERVICE man appears.

SECRET SERVICE GUY
Mr. President, we have to go.

Abruptly, the room DARKENS as it begins to RUMBLE.

66 EXT. WHITE HOUSE - SAME

66

The long dark SHADOW moves across the entire White House, engulfing it in darkness.

67 EXT. HUDSON RIVER, NEW YORK - STATUE OF LIBERTY - SAME

67

In the distance we SEE the mutated phenomenon's dark gray clouds nearing Miss. Liberty. As it approaches we SEE the New York skyline begin to darken.

67A EXT. BLACK TOP BASKET BALL COURT, NEW YORK - SAME

67A

Kids playing basket ball. A young BOY stops playing, staring skyward. One by one, they all look upwards, stunned as a long dark SHADOW creeps over them.

With a loud CRASH, several New York Cabs SLAM into one another in the street. Two more cars crash into them. A pile up ensues.

68 EXT. WALL STREET - SECONDS LATER

68

Foot traffic stops as the long SHADOW crawls over the entire area.

69 EXT. ROOFTOP - COMPACT CABLE - SAME

69

Large satellite dishes beset a doorway to the roof which flies open. David steps out just as a long dark SHADOW covers over him, sending the city into darkness. David looks up to SEE...

70 SKYLINE AND ALIEN CRAFT

70

Protruding through the dark clouds we get a glimpse of the underbelly of a colossal ALIEN CRAFT, its outer veneer of smoke and clouds beginning to fade away.

Below we see PANIC, cabs SLAMMING into one another, people staring, people screaming. No one knows how to react.

David runs to the other side of the rooftop, overlooking central park, to get a better look.

71 DAVID'S P.O.V. - CENTRAL PARK - SAME

71

The entire park is plunged into darkness as the craft above blots out the sun. Amazing as it may seem, the hovering craft BLANKETS THE ENTIRE PARK and BEYOND. We still have NOT seen an entire craft.

DAVID
(realizing)
My God. The signal.

72 EXT. LOS ANGELES BASIN - WIDE ANGLE - LATE MORNING

72

A panoramic view of the Los Angeles basin. Slowly filling the screen, we SEE a portion of the enormous space craft as it creeps towards the city, obliterating our view.

73 EXT. HILLSIDE RESIDENTIAL AREA - SAME

73

A station wagon, filled with kids and a harried HOUSEWIFE, comes to a stop. The passenger door opens and a young six year old boy, DYLAN steps out.

HOUSEWIFE
Dylan, tell your mom you can stay
overnight again Thursday.

Suddenly a car SAILS over a nearby hill in front of them, hitting the ground with a BANG. Two more cars follow, air bound. As the Housewife turns she SEES...

73A SPACE SHIP - SAME

73A

Rising over the mountain we SEE the Space Ship as it nears the city, blocking out the sunshine.

Panicked, the Housewife hits the gas and peels out, leaving a confused Dylan staring skyward.

74 INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

74

Two people sleep as Dylan runs into the room.

DYLAN
Mommy, look at!

He rushes away. The SHADOW moves past the windows, darkening the room. His mother, JASMINE DUBROW, stirs.

JASMINE
(re: darkness)
It's too early, baby.

She turns back over. Suddenly the room briefly RUMBLES.

MAN

Earthquake?

JASMINE

Not even a four pointer. Go back
to sleep.

Shrugging, the man does.

74A HOLLYWOOD SIGN (FORMERLY SC. 72) - SAME

74A

In Los Angeles. The SHADOW slowly covers the sign.

75 EXT. WHITE HOUSE - WINDOW - SAME

75

The President and his daughter cautiously approach the window
staring in awe at the amazing sight above them. Several
others approach from behind.

Cautiously some people begin to walk outside, staring up at
the leviathan, mouths agape.

76 INT. OVAL OFFICE - SAME

76

Slowly staff members approach, gazing out the window.
Constance steps up behind the President.

CONSTANCE

What do we do now?

PRESIDENT WHITMORE

Address the nation. There are a
lot of very frightened people out
there right now.

CONSTANCE

Yeah. I'm one of them.

77 EXT. WASHINGTON D.C. - ALIEN CRAFT - SAME

77

All of Washington is under the shadow of this gargantuan alien
craft. A stunning tableau.

CUT TO:

78 INT. JASMINE DEBROW'S BEDROOM - SAME

78

The man sleeping next to Jasmine is, STEVEN HILL, twenties,
handsome with a military haircut.

Pouncing up onto the bed, Jasmine's beagle BOOMER drops
Steve's tennis shoes on top of him, waking him.

JASMINE
He's trying to impress you.

STEVE
He's doing a good job.

He pats the dog on the head and takes the shoes. Steven gets up and makes his way to the bathroom.

79 INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

79

As Steve takes a pee, he SEES out the window a family packing up their car, others standing around staring at something in the distance. A HELICOPTER flies overhead.

STEVE
Neighbors are moving. I think
they're tired of earthquakes.

He finishes and flushes.

80 INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

80

Steve enters the living room. The television is playing a news broadcast.

NEWSCASTER
...with little damage reported to
the southland area. People are
advised not to panic...

STEVE
Hon, something's on the tube 'bout
the quake.

Jasmine sits up in bed, yelling out to Steve.

JASMINE
Dylan out there?

Steve turns, looking for Dylan when the doggie door pops open and Dylan crawls through.

STEVE
What have you been up to, Sport?

DYLAN
(holding his gun)
Shooting aliens.

Steve musses up the boy's hair, smiling.

JASMINE
(entering)
Coffee?

Steve mumbles an affirmative as he exits.

81 EXT. JASMINE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

81

Steve picks up the morning paper and opens it. He doesn't notice the DOZENS of neighbors quickly packing up and rushing to get away as he reads the paper oblivious.

JASMINE (O.S.)

You want milk with your coffee?

Jasmine appears behind him, her view, too, obscured by the open newspaper. Suddenly another HELICOPTER zooms overhead. Annoyed, Steve lowers his paper.

82 STEVE AND JASMINE'S P.O.V.

82

As the paper is lowered we SEE the helicopter SWOOP down. As it flies away we SEE...

83 THE ALIEN CRAFT

83

Covering all of Los Angeles. This is the first time we see the entire craft. It is stupendous. Steve's jaw hits the floor. The milk goes CRASHING as Jasmine SCREAMS.

CUT TO:

84 INT. STAIRWELL - DAY

84

Running for all he's worth, David sprints down the stairs.

85 INT. COMPACT CABLE OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

85

Dashing off the stairs, David stops seeing that the room is now completely empty. The wall of monitors play for no one. David walks up to one, adjusting the volume.

T.V. - CNN BROADCAST - (DISTORTED BROADCAST SIGNAL)

A space ship logo spins next to the words VISITORS: CONTACT OR CRISIS. Wolf Blitzer comes on screen live from the Pentagon.

WOLF BLITZER

Pentagon officials are reporting more ships have just arrived over the capitals of India, England and Germany.

As he speaks we get quick glimpses of the other ships.

MARTY (O.S.)

I know, babycakes. Calm down.

David spins around at the sound of the voice but the room is still empty. David leans down and looks under a desk where he finds Marty still on the phone with his wife.

DAVID

Tell her to get the kids and leave town.

MARTY

What happened?

DAVID

(yells)
Just do it!

Marty realizes David is dead serious.

MARTY

Babycakes, pack the kids up and take them to your mother's. Don't ask. Go.

Marty hangs up, crawls out from under the table.

MARTY (cont'd)

Okay, why did I just send my family to Atlanta?

DAVID

Remember I told you that the signal hidden within our satellite signal is slowly recycling down to extinction.

MARTY

Not really....

DAVID

That signal. It's a countdown.

MARTY

(confused)
A countdown to what?

DAVID

Think. It's like in chess. First you strategically position your pieces. Then, when the timing's right. You strike.

David motions to the television.

BLITZER

...there are additional
unconfirmed sightings over Japan,
the Mediterranean, and China...

DAVID

They are positioning themselves
all over the world and using this
one signal to synchronize their
efforts. In approximately six
hours the signal will disappear
and the countdown will be over.

MARTY

Then what?

DAVID

Checkmate.

Marty takes a beat to digest. Then, grabbing the phone...

MARTY

I gotta call my brother, my
bookie, my lawyer...fuck my
lawyer...

David also grabs a phone. Suddenly the bank of monitors
synchronize into one enormous image across the entire video
wall; the President addressing the nation.

86 INT. PRESS ROOM - WHITE HOUSE - SAME

86

The President stands at the podium giving his address.

PRESIDENT

My fellow Americans, a historic
and unprecedented event has taken
place. The question as to whether
or not we are alone in the
universe has been answered...

87 ANGLE - SIDE ENTRANCE TO PRESS ROOM

87

As Constance watches the President, she unconsciously mouths
the words of his speech, after all, she did write them. A
PRESS AIDE tugs on her sleeve. She tries to wave her off.

PRESS AIDE

He says he's your husband.

Her expression drops. She takes the phone from her.

CONSTANCE

What do you want?

DAVID
(filtered)
You have to leave the White House.

CONSTANCE
This is not the time or the place
to have this same old discussion.

88 INT. COMPACT CABLE OFFICES - SAME

88

DAVID
You don't understand. You have to
leave Washington.

89 INT. SIDE OFFICE - WHITE HOUSE - SAME

89

Impatient, Constance tries to get off the phone.

CONSTANCE
In case you haven't noticed, we're
in a little bit of a crisis here.

DAVID
(filtered)
I've worked with embedded coding.
They're communicating with a
hidden signal. They're going to
attack...

CONSTANCE
You're being paranoid.

DAVID
(filtered)
It's not paranoia. The embedding
is very subtle. It's probably
been overlooked...

Constance hangs up. Her face betrays mixed emotions.

90 INT. COMPACT CABLE OFFICES - SAME

90

David stares at the phone, pissed. Something on t.v.
catches his attention. Through the snowy image he SEES...

PRESIDENT
(filtered)
...My staff and I are remaining
here at the White House while we
attempt to establish
communication...

Hanging up the phone, David sprints for the exit.

PRESIDENT (cont'd)
...so remain calm. If you are
compelled to leave these cities,
please do so in a safe and orderly
fashion.

SMASH CUT TO:

91 CABS SLAMMING TOGETHER - NEW YORK CITY STREETS 91

The rush to get away creeps slowly as cars jam the streets in total grid-lock. David pedals his bike furiously through traffic.

92 EXT. GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE - NEW YORK - DAY 92

The mass exodus has reached the bridge. Total congestion. David fights his way through.

93 EXT. CLIFFSIDE, NEW JERSEY - LATER 93

The New York skyline behind him across the Hudson, David jumps off his bike, and races towards a row of tract houses.

94 EXT. MOISHE'S TRACT HOUSE - SECONDS LATER 94

David BANGS on the door. It flies open. Moishe is holding a hunting rifle, pointing it at David.

DAVID

Pops!

MOISHE

The television said they've
started with the looting already.
Vultures.

DAVID

You still got the Olds?

MOISHE

You want to borrow the car? You
don't have a license.

DAVID

That's okay. You're driving.

CUT TO:

95 INT. JASMINE'S HOUSE - DAY 95

Steve, wearing his Marine flight officer uniform, shoves the last of his things into his duffel bag. We notice there are small figurines of dolphins everywhere. Jasmine hovers nervously behind him.

JASMINE

You can't go. Call them back.

STEVE

Baby, you know how it is. I have to report to El Toro right away.

JASMINE

You said you were on leave for the Fourth.

STEVE

They canceled it. Why are you acting like this?

Jasmine grabs the blinds and yanks them away. We SEE the alien craft through the window.

JASMINE

Why? That's why. That thing scares the piss out of me.

96 EXT. DEBROW HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

96

Dylan sits behind the wheel pretending to drive. Steve grabs him, pulls him out. He reaches into his duffel, grabs a small brown paper bag.

STEVE

Here. I got these for you. Be careful with them.

Dylan opens the bag; fireworks. Jasmine walks over.

DYLAN

Cool.

Steve tosses his gear into the back, opens his door.

JASMINE

Wait. I have to tell you something.

STEVE

What?

JASMINE

(loses her nerve)
Be careful.

STEVE

Look, after your shift tonight, why don't you grab Dylan and come stay with me on base.

JASMINE
Really? You don't mind?

STEVE
(smiling)
Naw. I'll just tell my other
girlfriends they can't come over
tonight.

Pissed, she hits him. He loves it.

JASMINE
You know, you're not as charming
as you think you are.

STEVE
Yes I am.

JASMINE
Dick-weed!

STEVE
Butt-munch.

They kiss. Steve hops into his car and peels out. Jasmine
takes the bag from Dylan.

JASMINE
I'll take these.

DYLAN
Mooooooooooooo...

CUT TO:

97 EXT. JERSEY - HIGHWAY - LATER THAT DAY

97

A perfectly preserved '68 Olds drives cautiously down the
highway. Around him we see other cars packed to the gills as
they make their escape from New York.

98 INT. OLDS - SAME

98

Not the most confident driver, Moishe holds the steering wheel
close to his chest.

MOISHE
It's the White House, for crying
out loud. You can't just drive up
and ring the bell.

DAVID
Can't this thing go any faster?

MOISHE

You think they don't know what you know? Believe me, they know. She works for the President. They know everything.

DAVID

They don't know this.

MOISHE

And you're going to educate them? Tell me something, you're so smart how come you spent eight years at M.I.T. to become a cable repairman?

DAVID

Dad...

MOISHE

All I'm saying is they've got people who handle these things, David. They want HBO, they'll call you.

CUT TO:

99 INT. HOTEL LOUNGE, LOS ANGELES - LATE AFTERNOON

99

Mrs. Whitmore is at a house phone. Behind her we see several news crews waiting for interviews.

PRESIDENT

(filtered through phone)

I want you out of there.

MARGARET

You're staying there to keep people calm. It's the right thing to do. I'm not going to let them criticize you for it.

100 INT. WHITMORE BEDROOM - WHITE HOUSE - SAME

100

The President sits on his bed, his daughter lays next to him, watching t.v. The signal distortion is getting worse.

PRESIDENT

Okay, fine but the second your interviews are done, I have a helicopter ready to take you to Nellis Air Force...

MARGARET
(filtered)
How's the munchkin?

PRESIDENT
She's glued to the T.V., just like
the rest of the world. I love you
too. Here she is...

He hands Patty the phone as General Grey and Nimziki appear in
the doorway. The President walks over to them.

GENERAL GREY
More ships keep arriving, fifteen
in total so far.

NIMZIKI
This is crazy. We're loosing our
first strike capabilities!

GENERAL GREY
We're trying to communicate with
them on all frequencies but we're
getting nowhere. Atlantic Command
is working on a type of visual
communication.

PRESIDENT
What the hell are they up to?

CUT TO:

101 EXT. TRAILER PARK - NIGHT

101

A long crowded highway of people trying to escape from Los
Angeles can be seen in the distance. The huge space craft
hovering behind them.

Miguel is on the roof of the trailer, adjusting the t.v.
antenna trying to get a picture. Suddenly the image clears
and we SEE a group of people in a crowded hallway.

REPORTER
(filtered)
...a local crop duster was
arrested today attempting to land
at Edwards Air Force Base...

On the t.v. we SEE Russell being escorted to a police car.
Mortified, Miguel can't believe what he's seeing.

RUSSELL
They've got to do something.
(MORE)

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

I was abducted by space aliens ten years ago. They did all kinds of experiments on me. They've been studying us for years, learning our weakness. We've got to do something before they kill us all!

TROY (O.S.)

What'cha watching?

Just as Troy starts to climb up, Miguel changes the channel to Mrs. Whitmore. Troy sits down next to Miguel.

MRS. WHITMORE

(filtered)

...we need to remain calm. As more people decide to leave the cities, safety is key...

MIGUEL

Troy, you remember Uncle Hector, from Tucson?

TROY

He's got that SEGA Saturn CD, 64 bit, right?

MIGUEL

Yeah. What would you think if we went there to live for a while?

TROY

That'd be cool!

Miguel thinks for a second, makes a decision.

MIGUEL

Pack up, we're going.

Miguel jumps down from the roof. Troy climbs down the ladder.

TROY

(yelling after him)

What about Dad?

102 OMITTED

102

103 ALICIA AND OLDER BOY

103

Kissing. It's getting hot. Alicia laughs, pushes him away.

OLDER BOY

This could be our last night on Earth. You don't want to die a virgin, do you?

ALICIA
What makes you think I'm a virgin.

The Older Boy is taken off guard. Before he can answer the tarp they were hiding under is ripped away. Miguel stands there.

MIGUEL
Come on, we're going.

ALICIA
I'm not going anywhere...

Miguel grabs her by the wrist and pulls her away.

104 EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE WASHINGTON - NIGHT 104

We see the long highway leading to Washington, the space ship hovering above it. One side of the freeway is packed solid, the other completely empty, save for one car...

105 INT. MOISHE'S OLDS - NIGHT 105

Moishe looks to the other side of the freeway, jam packed. On his side, they are the only car for miles.

MOISHE
The whole world is trying to get
out of Washington and we're the
only shmucks trying to get in.

As Moishe drives, David distracts him as he unpacks his backpack unloading his laptop. He grabs a CD.

MOISHE (cont'd)
What the hell is that?

DAVID
This, pops, is every phone book in
America.

MOISHE
You think an important person like
Constance is going to be listed?

DAVID
She always keeps her portable
phone listed, for emergencies.
Sometimes it's just her first
initial, sometime her nickname...

David starts to look it up. Suddenly...

DOZENS OF CARS HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THEM

In the attempt to get out, hundreds of cars have been re-directed by the military to use the opposite side of the highway.

MOISHE

Oy my God!

Moishe SWERVES violently to avoid collision, barely missing the oncoming traffic. Dodging right to left, Moishe hangs on for dear life.

A Military Officer, assisting in diverting the cars turns just in time to see the Olds whiz by.

David and Moishe are bounced around the inside of the car as Moishe tries to veer through traffic.

Suddenly A TRUCK blocks off their only escape route.

Moishe turns HARD and drives up onto the right shoulder.

OVERHEAD ANGLE - OLDS AND TRAFFIC

The Olds is the only car in headed that direction. Using the shoulder, swerving to miss barricades, they drive off an exit ramp.

DAVID

Nice driving, pops!

Dangerously close to a heart attack, Moishe is, for once, at a loss for words. Over their adrenaline pumped faces...

MALE VOICE (V.O.)

...put your hands together for
Sabrina!

CUT TO:

106 INT. STRIP CLUB - LOS ANGELES - NIGHT 106

A bikini-clad Sabrina twirls gracefully on the stage. As she comes to a stop we reveal Sabrina is actually Jasmine. She looks out into the audience and her expression DROPS.

107 REVERSE ANGLE - JASMINE'S P.O.V. - EMPTY CLUB 107

Five strippers and eight customers. All crowded near the television watching the news.

108 ANGLE T.V. - ROOFTOPS - LOS ANGELES 108

Helicopter footage of people gathered on the rooftops of downtown Los Angeles holding up drawings of space aliens.

NEWSCASTERS

(filtered)

...from the "it could only happen in California" file, hundreds of UFO fanatics have gathered on the rooftops of downtown Los Angeles, welcoming the new arrivals...

109 INT. DRESSING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

109

Jasmine storms into the dressing room. Wiping off her makeup, she sits down next to TIFFANY who watches the same report on a small b&w.

JASMINE

I can't believe I even came in tonight. What was I thinking?

TIFFANY

(re: t.v.)

Isn't this cool. And you thought I was nuts. Oh, look, I brought mine with me.

Tiffany holds up a drawing of a space alien.

JASMINE

You're not thinking of joining those idiots?

TIFFANY

I'm going over there soon as I'm off. Wanna come?

Jasmine turns to Tiffany, dead serious.

JASMINE

Tiffany, I don't want you to go up there. Promise me you won't.

(Tiffany pouts)

Promise!

TIFFANY

I promise.

JASMINE

Okay. I'm gone. I'm outta town for a while.

Her boss MARIO enters and walks over to his private office in back. He opens the door and finds Dylan playing with his dog, Boomer.

MARIO

What the hell's your kid doing
here?

Jasmine rushes past picking up Dylan and carrying him away as
she heads for the exit. Boomer follows.

JASMINE

You try to find a sitter today.

MARIO

Where do you think you're going?
You leave, you're fired.

JASMINE

(out the door)

Nice working with you, Mario.

CUT TO:

110 EXT. WASHINGTON D.C. - NIGHT

110

The streets are nearly deserted. Millions of small lights on
the underbelly of the craft cast strange reflections on the
streets below. The Olds drives on its way towards the Capitol
building.

111 INT. OLDS - CONTINUOUS

111

David types frustratedly on this laptop.

MOISHE

Not listed, huh?

DAVID

I just haven't found it yet. I
tried C. Halbrook, Connie
Halbrook, Spunky Halbrook...

MOISHE

Spunky?

DAVID

College nickname.

MOISHE

You try Martin?

DAVID

She didn't take my name when we
were married.

Moishe shrugs. David gives it a shot. Finds it. The machine
BEEPS.

MOISHE
(sarcastic)
So what do I know?

CUT TO:

112 OMITTED 112

113 INT. LOCKER ROOM - EL TORO MARINE CORPS STATION - NIGHT 113

A crowded locker room. Steve enters.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)
Where the hell've you been?

STEVE
Ah, were you guys waiting for me?

Several Marines throw towels at Steve as he makes his way to his locker. His best friend, JIMMY, sits next to him.

JIMMY
Can you believe it? This is
serious shit, Stevie. They've
recalled everyone!

As Steve sits he SEES some envelopes stuck into the side of his locker.

STEVE
Well, the mail's still working.

He flips through the envelopes and FREEZES when he sees one with the NASA ensignia on it. Jimmy snatches it away from him.

JIMMY
Junk mail. You don't want this.

Steve quickly snatches it back, rips it open and reads. From the disappointment on his face we can tell it's bad news. Realizing, Jimmy puts a hand on Steve's shoulder.

JIMMY
I don't believe it. They make you
learn how to fly everything from
an Apache to a Harrier and still
they turn you down? What else do
they want you to learn?

STEVE
How to kiss ass.

Steve crumples the letter and tosses it. Angrily he opens his locker. Pasted on the locker door we see photos of Jasmine next to photos of the space shuttle, Apollo Missions, and a NASA insignia bumper sticker.

As Steve stuffs his jacket into the locker, something falls out. Before Steve can grab it, Jimmy snatches it up first.

JIMMY

What is this?

Jimmy holds up the small jewelry box, opens it up to find a beautiful diamond engagement ring, the ring a thin dolphin wrapped in a circle.

STEVE

(embarrassed)

Jasmine has this thing for dolphins. I had them make it...

JIMMY

I thought you said you were going to break it off.

Steve snatches it back, embarrassed.

JIMMY (cont'd)

Steve, listen to me, you're never gonna get to fly the space shuttle if you marry a stripper.

Steve knows he's right. He's torn.

CUT TO:

114 EXT. WHITE HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

114

The Olds stops near the White House. From here we can SEE tanks and armed patrols. A small group of protesters have gathered, upset about the military hardware. Signs: "Don't provoke" "Violence begets Violence."

115 INT. OLDS - CONTINUOUS

115

David adjusts a small portable satellite, connecting it to his phone and laptop computer.

MOISHE

So, you want to ring the bell or should I?

David flips open the phone, dials the number on the screen.

DAVID
Perfect, she's using it.

MOISHE
It's perfect the line is busy?

DAVID
Yes. I can use her signal to
triangulate her exact position in
the White House.

MOISHE
You can do that?

Shooting his father a look.

DAVID
(sarcastic)
All cable repairmen can.

116 INT. WHITE HOUSE - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

116

Constance is just finishing a call on her cellular phone.

CONSTANCE
...Sally, take my cat with when
you leave. No I'm staying here at
the White House. Take care.

The moment she hangs up, it RINGS. Surprised, she answers.

CONSTANCE
What!

DAVID
(filtered)
Connie, don't hang up.

CONSTANCE
David? How'd you get this number?

DAVID
Walk to the window. Right in
front of you.

Constance looks up to the large glass windows. She walks over
to it, looking out.

CONSTANCE
What am I looking for?

117 CONSTANCE'S P.O.V - STREET - OLDS - DAVID

117

Between two of the tanks outside, Constance can SEE David standing on top of the Olds across the street. Moishe steps out, waves. Constance is stunned.

CONSTANCE
(to herself)
How does he do that?

CUT TO:

118 INT. BRENNON TRAILER - NIGHT

118

Sulking, Alicia sits in back with her walkman on. Troy sleeps while Miguel drives. Suddenly Miguel hits the brakes, as something comes SAILING DOWN FROM THE SKY.

We realize it's the B-WING PLANE landing on the stretch of roadway directly in front of them.

119 EXT. ROADWAY - CONTINUOUS

119

The plane lands, skids into a turn. Russell jumps out, walks over to the trailer. We can tell he's drunk again.

MIGUEL
They let you out?

RUSSELL
Just what the hell do you think
you're doing?

Miguel moves to meet Russell away from the trailer, not wanting the others to hear.

MIGUEL
We're leaving, don't try and stop
us.

RUSSELL
You're not going anywhere. You
hear me? I'm still your father.

Miguel explodes, this has been building up for some time.

MIGUEL
No your not! You're just the man
who married my mother. You're
nothing to me!

Russell is momentarily silent, stunned. Recovering...

RUSSELL

Troy's still my son no matter how
you feel about me.

MIGUEL

For once in your life think about
what's best for Troy. Who has to
beg for money to buy him medicine
when you screw up? Who?

Suddenly we hear glass CRASHING. Both men spin to find Troy
standing behind them.

TROY

Stop it! I'm not a baby! I don't
need your stupid medicine. I
don't need anyone to take care of
me!

Miguel leans down to see the broken MEDICINE BOTTLE on the
floor. Miguel rushes over to him, furious.

MIGUEL

You know what this stuff costs?
Do you want to get sick again!?
Do you!?

Frustrated, Miguel shoves Troy aside and heads back into the
trailer. Wobbly from the drinking, Russell stands there
pathetically, watching.

120 EXT. ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE - NIGHT

120

A large group of press rush over toward FOUR APACHE
HELICOPTERS, each refitted with a large LIGHT BOARDS, as they
slowly lift off the ground. Cameras flash, reporters yell
questions to the Officers assigned to keep them at bay.

Several news organizations do stand up remotes. We TRACK past
them to the CNN crew.

CNN REPORTER

What you see behind me are four
Apache helicopters...

121 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - WHITE HOUSE - SAME

121

On the television plays the CNN broadcast. The reception is
intermittently disrupted.

CNN REPORTER
(filtered through t.v.)
...each has been refitted with
what Pentagon officials hope will
be our first step in communicating
with the alien craft...

We WIDEN to reveal a large contingent of military personnel
along with the President's chief advisors gathered around
several monitors, (the center monitors are momentarily blank).

Suddenly everyone snaps to attention as the President enters.

PRESIDENT
Where are we?

GENERAL GREY
They're in the air.

CUT TO:

122 INT. OFFICE OF THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR - SAME 122

Moishe inspects a photo of Constance with the President,
impressed he nods with approval.

MOISHE
(to himself)
Very nice.

Constance is looking at David's laptop displaying the
breakdown of the alien signal.

CONSTANCE
And when is the countdown supposed
to expire?

DAVID
(checking)
Fifty six minutes, forty five
seconds.

Constance runs her fingers through her hair, exasperated.
Moishe turns, listens.

CONSTANCE
What do you want me to do?

DAVID
I want you to leave with us.
Right now.

CONSTANCE
I can't leave. We have to tell
this to the President.

DAVID

He's not going to listen to me.

Surprised at his son, Moishe steps forward.

MOISHE

Sure he'll listen. Why wouldn't he?

DAVID

Because last time I saw him I punched him in the face.

MOISHE

You punched the President in the face?

DAVID

He wasn't the President then.

CONSTANCE

David thought I was having an affair, which I wasn't.

MOISHE

Punched the President? Oy my god.

123 APACHE HELICOPTERS

123

ZOOM by overhead. In the distance we see they are headed for the enormous alien craft.

124 INT. HELICOPTER - PILOT - CONTINUOUS

124

The PILOT adjusts his radio.

PILOT

Echo one, we are closing in.

125 EXT. SKIES - CONTINUOUS

125

The choppers alter their formation, aligning themselves alongside one another. As the helicopters near the craft, we see how tiny they appear against the gargantuan space ship.

126 INT. HALLWAY - ELEVATORS - WHITE HOUSE - MINUTES LATER

126

The elevator doors open and Moishe steps out, overwhelmed and impressed. Constance leads them down the hall. Moishe turns to David, whispers.

MOISHE

If I had known I was going to meet the President, I'd a worn a tie.

(MORE)

MOISHE (CONT'D)

Look at me, I look like a
schlemiel.

127 INT. OVAL OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

127

The office is empty as the trio walks in. Moishe can't believe he's there. He straightens himself up, combs his hair.

CONSTANCE

Wait here. I'll be right back.

David sets up his laptop.

MOISHE

Not on his desk.

128 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - NIGHT

128

The middle monitors are now on. They show the night vision P.O.V. of the helicopters as they approach. On the side monitors we SEE the various news broadcast of this event.

NEWSCASTER

(filtered)

...the helicopters are making
their final approach...

On the middle monitor, through the night vision camera on the lead helicopter we SEE the side of the craft as the helicopters near. Everyone in the room watches, tense.

Constance enters and kneels down next to the President, whispering in his ear. The President gets up and follows Constance. Chief of Staff Nimziki objects.

NIMZIKI

You're leaving now?

The President silences him with a look. As they exit.

CONSTANCE

I don't know how you put up with
him.

PRESIDENT

He use to run the NIA. He knows
were all the bones are buried.
Comes in handy.

CONSTANCE

I'll bet.

129 INT. OVAL OFFICE - SAME

129

The door flies open and Constance and the President enter.
The moment President Whitmore sees David, he freezes.

PRESIDENT WHITMORE
What the hell's he doing here?

Moishe, bursting, steps forward.

CONSTANCE
My ex-husband works in
satellite communications.

MOISHE
Moishe Martinsburg, Mr.
President.

PRESIDENT
I don't have time for this...

With a BANG, David suddenly KNOCKS everything off the
President's desk and starts to draw on the ink blotter.

DAVID
It's about "line of sight," Mr.
President...

David draws a circle representing Earth and a smaller circle
just away from it. The President reluctantly nears.

DAVID
...If you wanted to coordinate
with ships all over the world, you
couldn't send one signal to every
place at the same time. That's
called line of sight...

Drawing a line from the ship to either side of the Earth, we
SEE that you could not send a signal to the other side.

DAVID (cont'd)
...you'd need to relay your signal
using satellites...

David draws small satellites surrounding Earth.

DAVID (cont'd)
...to reach each ship. I have
found a signal hidden inside our
own satellite network.

Suddenly an aide, ALEX, appears in the doorway.

ALEX
Excuse me, Mr. President. They're
starting.

The President turns to the monitor in his office. We SEE the helicopters turning on the light boards affixed to the front of their cockpits. He turns back to David.

DAVID

Mr. President, they are using our own satellites against us and the clock is ticking.

130 EXT. HELICOPTERS - SAME - NIGHT

130

The large light panels TURN ON, multi-colored lights slowly begin to flash in a repeating sequential pattern.

130A REVERSE ANGLE - HELICOPTERS AND SPACE CRAFT

130A

The helicopters are puny little specs next to this Goliath. The light boards continue to FLASH but there is no reaction from the ship.

131 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - SECONDS LATER

131

Everyone is glued to the monitors as the President storms in.

PRESIDENT

General Grey, co-ordinate with Atlantic Command. Tell them they have twenty five minutes to get as many people out of the cities as they can.

GENERAL GREY

But Mr. President...

PRESIDENT

And get those helicopters away from the ship. Call them back immediately.

General Grey obeys, turning to an assistant who quickly grabs a phone. Nimziki steps up to the President.

NIMZIKI

What the hell's going on?

PRESIDENT

We're leaving.

An AIDE motions to the monitors.

AIDE

They're responding.

The room goes silent, everyone turns to the monitors.

132 MONITOR - NEWS PROGRAM & NIGHT VISION VIDEO

132

On all screens we SEE the space ship as a long thin line of WHITE LIGHT suddenly emits from the side of the craft, illuminating the four Apache Helicopters.

133 EXT. APACHE HELICOPTERS - SAME

133

The light boards are overpowered by the bright light coming from the space craft. Suddenly with a loud SCREECHING NOISE, the white light spills out as a huge OPENING unfolds at the side of the craft.

The four helicopters have to fight to hold their positions, as something powerful emits from the schism in the ship.

Then like a gigantic bug-zapper, the four pesky little Apache Helicopters are BLOWN OUT OF THE SKY, one by one. They have no time to retreat.

134 INT. HOTEL SUITE - NIGHT

134

Mrs. Whitmore packs her bag, as the horrifying image of the destruction of the helicopter replays on the t.v.

SECRET SERVICEMAN

Mrs. Whitmore? The President has ordered the evacuation. We have to leave, now.

She slams her valise SHUT and quickly exits.

135 POLICE HELICOPTER

135

SOARS over us, headed directly for downtown Los Angeles.

136 EXT. ROOFTOP - SAME

136

The UFO true believers are still there, holding up their signs. Making her way through several of them we see Tiffany. She looks up to the spacecraft above.

TIFFANY

(awed)

It's beautiful.

She digs her drawing of an alien out of her purse as she excitedly rushes up to the others. She holds it up to the sky, proudly.

POLICE HELICOPTER

From out of nowhere the helicopter LIFTS up over the side of the building, shining it's spotlight down on the believers below.

POLICE (P.A.)
...we are evacuating the city.
Please leave the building at once.

The sign holders begin to "boo" the police, ignoring them.

137 EXT. CITY STREET - PASADENA THROUGHWAY - SAME 137

The freeway is packed on both sides, every car headed out of town. There is no opposing traffic.

138 INT. JASMINE'S CAR - SAME 138

Dylan holds Boomer as Jasmine drives. The news plays over her car radio.

RADIO VOICE
...authorities have called for a
complete evacuation of Los Angeles
County. People are advised to
avoid the highways wherever
possible.

JASMINE
Now he tells me.

139 EXT. WHITE HOUSE - SAME 139

The President stops on his way to the Presidential helicopter as an aide brings his daughter outside. The President ushers her into the helicopter. He turns back and sees a military guard holding back Moishe and David.

PRESIDENT
They're okay. Let them on!

140 INT. HELICOPTER - CONTINUOUS 140

The President steps inside, turns to General Grey

PRESIDENT
Is my wife in the air?

GENERAL GREY
She should be shortly.

David flips open his laptop which reads: 09:07, 09:06...

141 EXT. WHITE HOUSE LAWN - HELICOPTER - CONTINUOUS 141

The Presidential helicopter lifts off as several other helicopters wait behind, people filing into them.

142 EXT. ROOFTOPS - LOS ANGELES - SAME

142

The Police helicopter is still flashing their lights at the UFO believers who refuse to budge. Suddenly the entire rooftop is BATHED IN WHITE LIGHT. They all grow silent staring up at the craft.

Above them another SCHISM has opened at the bottom of the craft, the white light spilling out.

As though the heavens had opened, the UFO believers lift their arms, waiting to be taken.

BELIEVERS

Take me! No, take me! Take me!

Slowly this beam of light from the base of the ship INTENSIFIES directly on the top of this building.

143 EXT. HELIPORT - SAME

143

Standing on this rooftop heliport directly across from the UFO believers, the First Lady watches them, concerned.

SECRET SERVICEMAN

(yelling over helicopter)

Mrs. Whitmore!

Reluctantly, the First Lady turns and runs for the helicopter. The door is shut and the helicopter takes off.

144 EXT. THE CAPITOL BUILDING - SAME

144

With a ROAR, the Presidential helicopter ZOOMS past, behind it we see an enormous SCHISM opening beneath the space craft.

145 EXT. WHITE HOUSE - SAME

145

Alex is helping people get onto the remaining helicopters. Suddenly he is bathed in WHITE LIGHT. He looks up and sees the SCHISM, its WHITE BEAM coming directly down upon the White House.

146 EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - SAME

146

The pinnacle of this landmark is abruptly illuminated in WHITE LIGHT. We PAN UP to the space craft above, the beam intensifying from the SCHISM below the ship.

147 EXT. ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE - SAME

147

The Presidential helicopter lands. The President and his group are ushered over to AIR FORCE ONE which stands only a hundred yards away.

148 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - SAME 148

The door OPENS and the President and his advisors rush in. David flops down into a seat, quickly flips open his laptop which reads: 00:05, 00:04...

149 EXT. ROOFTOPS - LOS ANGELES - SAME 149

As the light amplifies, the believers chant, louder and louder. Suddenly the white light DISAPPEARS. The believers are stunned. In a brief moment it is replaced with a BLAST.

A DESTRUCTION BEAM BLASTS down onto the rooftop, splintering everything there, Police helicopter included, into a billion tiny particles.

Tiffany doesn't even have a chance to scream.

This is the epicenter, from here the WALL OF DESTRUCTION GROWS outwardly, destroying everything in its path.

150 EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - SAME 150

Just as the BLAST HITS, the historic building is DECIMATED.

151 EXT. WHITE HOUSE LAWN - SAME 151

Alex shuts the door on a helicopter. As he steps back the white light VANISHES. He looks up as the BLAST replaces the beam.

ANGLE - WHITE HOUSE

Just as one of the helicopters pass us, the White House SPLINTERS BEFORE OUR EYES.

152 EXT. ANDREWS - RUNWAY - AIR FORCE ONE - SAME 152

Air Force One quickly taxis down the runway towards us. Behind them in the distance we can SEE the DESTRUCTIVE beam GROWING OUTWARDLY from the epicenter.

153 THE CAPITOL BUILDING 153

The WALL OF DESTRUCTION reaches the Capitol Building, fragmenting into a trillion particles.

154 THE PENTAGON 154

Washed under the WALL OF DESTRUCTION, the Pentagon, too, is blown to smithereens.

155 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - SAME 155
Thick with tension. Everyone is white-knuckled, anxious for take off as they taxi quickly down the runway.

156 EXT. ANDREWS - RUNWAY - AIR FORCE ONE 156
Air Force One, full throttle. It LIFTS OFF just in time to miss the WALL OF DESTRUCTION as it rips apart the airport behind them, dangerously close.

157 WIDE ANGLE - WASHINGTON, D.C. 157
We SEE the WAVE OF DESTRUCTION growing outwardly from the epicenter, ENGULFING ALL OF WASHINGTON.
Air Force One is just barely making it out in time.

158 EXT. PASADENA FREEWAY - SAME 158
Jasmine's car is caught in traffic just outside the tunneled underpass at the Griffith Park Mountains.

RADIO NEWSMAN
(filtered)
...My God. It's destroying
everything in its path.
Widening...

Suddenly the radio CUTS OUT. Jasmine turns around and SEES...

159 JASMINE'S P.O.V. - FREEWAY & DOWNTOWN 159
Far off the devastation of downtown can be seen. The WALL OF DESTRUCTION growing towards us.
Reacting, Jasmine grabs Dylan and dashes out of the car. Boomer follows. Every driver who can, jumps out of their cars, running in all directions.
Jasmine heads for the tunnel.

160 ANGLE - FREEWAYS 160
The grid-locked cars have nowhere to run as the WALL OF DESTRUCTION grows out from downtown. All the cars are WIPED OUT in a row, sitting ducks.

161 ANGLE - OVERPASS - BRIDGES 161
Packed with cars. They're quickly demolished as the WALL OF DESTRUCTION blasts by.

162 INT. TUNNEL - SAME 162

Jasmine turns back from the tunnel entrance.

163 JASMINE'S P.O.V - WALL OF DESTRUCTION 163

Ever nearing, only moments away.

Jasmine spots an open MAINTENANCE ALCOVE deep within the tunnel. She runs to it, puts Dylan inside and climbs in after him.

Leaning back out, Jasmine looks for Boomer who stares at her, wagging his tail.

JASMINE

Boomer, come. Come boy!

Boomer LEAPS inside and Jasmine ducks to the side as the WALL OF DESTRUCTION hits the tunnel entrance, cars are JAMMED TOGETHER, SMASHING into one another.

Suddenly the cars ARE BLOWN CLEAR THROUGH THE TUNNEL like so many toy Hot Wheel cars.

Inside the Maintenance alcove, Jasmine shields Dylan and Boomer with her body.

164 EXT. MANHATTAN - WIDE ANGLE - SAME 164

From a distance we WATCH as all of Manhattan is consumed from its center outwardly by the growing WALL OF DESTRUCTION. Within seconds all of Manhattan is gone.

The WALL OF DESTRUCTION reaches its outer most edges and fades away.

The SCHISM under the craft slowly CLOSES. The ship now hovers over a completely wiped out Manhattan.

SLOW DISSOLVE:

165 INT. BRENNON TRAILER - PRE-DAWN 165

A hand adjusts the trailer radio.

RADIO

(filtered)

..reports are unclear as to the extent of the devastation, but from all accounts, Los Angeles, Washington and New York have been left in ruins..

Russell shoots a worried look over to Miguel. Suddenly Troy moves up to the front on wobbly legs.

TROY
Guys, I don't feel so good.

RUSSELL
When was the last time you had
your medicine?

TROY
Four days...five?

Troy looks really sick. Miguel is shocked.

MIGUEL
But I gave you some this morning.

TROY
I didn't take it. I thought I
didn't need it anymore.

166 EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - SAME

166

The trailer, with Russell's Bi-wing in tow, pulls over. Troy rushes out, vomiting on the side of the road. Miguel comes to his aide. Russell steps out and walks to the curve in the highway.

RUSSELL
Miguel? Come take a look at this.

Reluctantly Miguel leaves his brother's side.

167 P.O.V. - RUSSELL AND MIGUEL

167

Below an entire valley filled with campers, trailers and busses. A instant refugee city, if you will, for as far as the eye can see. Spectacular.

CUT TO:

168 INT. EL TORO - BRIEFING ROOM - MORNING

168

Thirty five pilots are being briefed by their Commanding Officer, CAPTAIN WATSON who points to a fuzzy photograph of the craft over Los Angeles.

WATSON
You will be the first wave in our
counter attack. Though
surveillance satellite
reconnaissance has been impaired,
we have a fix on our primary
target.

2nd Draft 5/11/99 63.

Steve and Jimmy sit next to each other near the back of the room.

STEVE
(whispered)
You won't exactly need radar to find it.

Jimmy chuckles. Watson is annoyed.

WATSON
You want to add something to this briefing, Lt. Hill?

Steve smiles confidently.

STEVE
Sorry, Sir. Just real anxious to kick some alien ass.

Everyone chuckles, including Captain Watson.

169 EXT. EL TORO MARINE CORPS AIR STATION - MOMENTS LATER 169

Huge hangar doors open revealing a F/A-18 HORNET, one of the U.S.A.F.'s elite.

170 TARMAC - OVERHEAD SHOT 170

Thirty F/A-18s await take off on the tarmac as Technicians and Flight Crews race for position.

171 ENGINE BLAST 171

The heat waves momentarily obscure our view as the F/A-18s take to the air.

172 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - SAME 172

The President is deeply contemplative. Constance sits down next to him. She knows what he's thinking.

CONSTANCE
You saved a lot of lives.

PRESIDENT WHITMORE
I could have evacuated the cities hours ago.
(beat)
You know, when I flew in the Gulf War everything was simple. We knew what we had to do. It's not simple anymore, Connie. A lot of people died today. How many didn't have to?

Constance realizes there's no comforting him. She supports him silently by being there. General Grey comes over.

PRESIDENT WHITMORE
Any news on my wife?

GENERAL GREY
The helicopter never arrived at
Nellis and there's been no radio
contact.

The news rocks the President. They both know what that means.

GENERAL GREY (cont'd)
The fighters are in the air.

Whitmore nods and follows the General to the back of the plane.

173 COMMAND CENTER - AIR FORCE ONE

173

Military Command has been set up on Air Force One, a kind of flying NORAD. Military and technical crew are seated at the controls. Nimziki is already there.

GENERAL GREY
All satellites, microwave and
ground communications with the
cities are gone. We believe we're
looking at a total loss.

Maintaining his composure, the President looks up at the many tracking screens.

PRESIDENT
Where are they?

GENERAL GREY
(pointing)
ETA with target; four minutes.

174 EXT. BLUE SKIES - TACTICAL FIGHTERS - SAME

174

Five F/A-18 fighters move into frame. As we WIDEN we REVEAL a total of 30 F/A-18s in attack formation, destination Los Angeles.

175 INT. STEVE'S FIGHTER - SAME

175

Steve pulls a long cigar out of his breast pocket.

STEVE
(into radio)
Jimmy crack corn, do you have
victory dance?

176 INT. JIMMY'S FIGHTER - SAME

176

Jimmy pulls his cigar out. Examines it.

JIMMY

(into radio)

That is an affirmative. I have
victory dance. Mmmmmmm.

STEVE

(filtered)

Don't get premature on me, Jimmy.
We don't light up 'til the Fat
Lady sings.

JIMMY

I hear you.

177 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - PASSENGER SECTION - SAME

177

Air sick, David holds a "barf bag" as Moishe talks.

MOISHE

It's Air Force One for crying out
loud. Still he gets sick?

DAVID

Moishe, please, don't talk.

Moishe pats his belly.

MOISHE

Look at me, like a rock. Good
weather, bad, doesn't matter.
(motions with his hands)
We can go up and down, back and
forth, side to side...

David can't take any more of this story and takes off running
for the bathroom.

MOISHE

What I say?

Constance comes over, sits next to Moishe.

CONSTANCE

He still gets air sick, huh? In
all of this I didn't get the
chance to thank you two.

MOISHE

Think nothing of it, Spanky.

Constance smiles, corrects him.

CONSTANCE

Spunky. He told you about that?

MOISHE

(nods)

All he could think about was
getting to you. There's still
love there I think.

CONSTANCE

(sadly)

Love was never our problem.

MOISHE

All you need is love. John
Lennon. Smart man. Shot in the
back, very sad.

178 EXT. SKIES - SAME

178

In the distance we can see the devastated Los Angeles, the
space craft still hovering above it. The Fighters zoom into
frame.

179 INT. STEVE'S FIGHTER - SAME

179

Steve looks down, becomes worried.

STEVE

I shouldn't have left her.

JIMMY

(filtered)

Don't worry, big guy. I'm sure
she got out of here before it
happened.

Steve nods absently.

STEVE

Let's lock and load.

180 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - SAME

180

The center F/A-18 on the radar map begins to FLASH yellow,
just under its image. We SEE a video display of it's FLIR
(forward-looking infrared) targeting system, locked on.

TECHNICIAN

Los Angeles attack squadron has
AMRAAM missiles locked on target.

TECHNICIAN #2
Washington and New York squadrons,
reporting lock on.

GENERAL GREY
Fire at will.

181 EXT. STEVE'S FIGHTER - SAME 181

An Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM) DROPS
down from the underbelly of the fighter, DARTING OFF.

Radar targeted, the missile BANKS hard, adjusting. We SEE it
is joined by FOURTEEN other missiles, all rocketing towards
their target.

182 EXT. ALIEN SHIP - SECONDS LATER 182

The missiles are headed straight for the alien ship.
Suddenly about a quarter mile before they reach it, they
EXPLODE, as though blown out of the sky.

When the smoke clears we see there has been zero damage.

183 INT. STEVE'S FIGHTER - SAME 183

STEVE
Damn it!

JIMMY
(filtered)
I didn't even see them fire!

STEVE
Command, Eagle One. Switching to
"sidewinders." We're moving in.

184 EXT. SKIES - SAME 184

In unison these amazing birds DIVE together, realigning
themselves into six groups of five, spreading out to attack
different areas of the ship.

185 STEVE'S GROUP 185

The first attack group, Steve's, are the first to near the
colossal alien craft. Simultaneously they drop their AIM-9
sidewinder missiles.

186 PACK OF AIM-9 SIDEWINDER MISSILES 186

They reach the same quarter-mile proximity and EXPLODE.

187 INT. STEVE'S FIGHTER - SAME

187

STEVE

They must have some kind of
protective shield surrounding
their hull. Pull up.

Most of the fighters do, but one is too late and SMASHES into
the ship's protective shield.

188 EXT. SKIES - SAME

188

Steve's squadron BANKS hard, skirting the edge of the ship's
protective shield.

As the fighters approach, the alien ship's enormous ATTACK BAY
doors OPEN. Suddenly DOZENS OF ALIEN ATTACKERS dart out
towards our fighters.

STEVE

(filtered)

Evasive maneuvers! Check Six!

Just moving away in time, our Fighters barely dodge the
oncoming enemy Attackers as they FIRE a HAILSTORM of FIREPOWER
(tracer bullet-like lasers) showering the sky.

As Steve's plane DIVES, an Attacker follows. Jimmy's plane
pulls up behind the attacker.

189 HEADS UP DISPLAY - HUD

189

Jimmy's HUD has the alien attacker in his sights.

JIMMY

(filtered)

Got you covered, Stevie.

Jimmy FIRES, another AIM-9 Sidewinder TAKES OFF.

190 ALIEN ATTACKER

190

The Sidewinder overtakes the attacker as Steve ROLLS AWAY out
of position. Five yards before the sidewinder can get to the
Attacker, it EXPLODES.

JIMMY

Shit! They've got shields too.

191 STEVE'S FIGHTER

191

Banks back around to get a shot. Just as he turns, three
American Fighters are BLOWN TO RIBBONS from Attacker tracer
fire.

The Attackers are in hot pursuit of Jimmy's fighter. The Fighter flying next to Jimmy is DEMOLISHED.

STEVE

Jimmy, roll right. I'll cover.

Jimmy's fighter narrowly rolls away from the tracer fire as Steve fires another Sidewinder, momentarily distracting the Attacker.

Jimmy falls in line with Steve as the attackers turn on them. Both fighters jerk downwards at a ninety degree angle at MACH ONE. Narrowly missing the ground, they bank away. The Attackers can't follow.

192 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - SAME

192

Fighter after fighter begin to disappear from the display screens.

COMMANDER

We're losing them.

PRESIDENT

Then get them out of there.

Suddenly one of the large radar display maps FIZZLES OUT.

TECHNICIAN

We've lost the satellite.

Before he can adjust, another monitor FIZZLES AWAY.

193 EXT. LOS ANGELES SKIES - SAME

193

One by one we SEE the fighters getting TAKEN OUT. Fireballs litter the laser-tracer fire covered skies.

STEVE

Maybe we can out run them. Follow my lead.

Jimmy and Steve bank away from the craft, hit the supercruise, BOLTING AWAY at Mach 2.

Both Jimmy and Steve are held tight against their seats, straining against the G-Force.

Two Attackers spot them and follow in hot pursuit.

Steve and Jimmy are flying at breakneck speeds, the attackers slowly gaining on them.

STEVE
Jimmy, kick it! They're gaining.

JIMMY
We're already over Mach 2!

STEVE
So push it!

Readouts show the planes flying beyond measurement.

194 INT. JIMMY'S FIGHTER - SAME 194

As the planes accelerate, Jimmy fights to remain conscious.

JIMMY
Stevie...I can't...

STEVE
Jimmy, stay with me.

Jimmy slowly loses consciousness. His fighter slows, drifting off to the right.

STEVE
JIMMY!

195 ALIEN ATTACKERS 195

gain on them. One catches up with Jimmy's fighter and FIRES.

196 JIMMY'S FIGHTER 196

Laser-tracers SHOWER the Fighter. It EXPLODES. Job done, his Attacker banks away, returning to Los Angeles.

STEVE
No!!!!

Steve's Attacker stays right with him, slowly gaining. Steve kicks his harder, keeping the distance.

CUT TO:

197 INT. EL TORO - AIR TOWER - SAME 197

A radar OPERATOR spots something on his screens. He turns to Captain Watson.

OPERATOR
We have incoming.

WATSON
Friendly?

OPERATOR
I don't think so.

Watson hits an alarm which ROARS.

198 EXT. EL TORO - TARMAC - SECOND LATER 198

A dozen PILOTS race out onto the field, running for their planes. Before anyone can reach them, the sky darkens with ALIEN ATTACKERS who STRAFE the runway.

199 INT. TOWER - SAME 199

Through the front glass of the tower we SEE the Attackers firing. One fires directly at the tower. Watson DIVES for cover as everything around him erupts into a gigantic FIREBALL.

200 WIDE ANGLE - EL TORO 200

The entire base goes up in flames.

CUT TO:

201 EXT. SKIES - FIGHTER & ATTACKER - SAME 201

Steve looks down over the side of his fighter.

202 STEVE'S P.O.V. - THE GRAND CANYON - SAME 202

Steve HITS THE BRAKES. Surprised, the Attacker SAILS PAST. Taking the moment, Steve DIVES down INTO THE GRAND CANYON.

STEVE
(to himself)
Okay, jerk-off. Let's have some fun.

The Attacker recovers, dives after Steve who flies dangerously close to the canyon walls. The Attacker has trouble keeping up with him but does.

Steve puts on a clinic in advanced aerobatics, banking, diving, swerving.

The Attacker seems to be improving, following closer and closer.

Steve ducks into smaller canyons, twisting sideways. Still the Attacker follows close.

203 FUEL GAUGE - RUNNING LOW

203

Near empty. Frustrated, Steve gets pissed.

STEVE

Damn it!

Steve turns down a dead end side canyon. The Attacker is right on his tail.

STEVE

Let's see if you're fully equipped.

The Fighter is on a collision course with the end of the canyon wall. Suddenly Steve yanks his ACES II - EJECTION SEAT.

Steve SAILS UPWARDS into the air.

The Fighter CRASHES into the canyon wall.

The Attacker can't turn in time. He tries to pull up, over it, just misses the top of the canyon wall.

As the nose of the Attacker hits the tip of the canyon wall the Attacker is FLIPPED OVER, ROLLING END OVER END over the top of the canyon.

The parachute on Steve's ejection seat pops OPEN.

204 EXT. TOP OF CANYON - CONTINUOUS

204

Rolling end over end, the Attacker is banged up BADLY as it finally comes to a stop.

Not far away, Steve has a quick, hard, landing. Rolling over, Steve quickly pops the buckles on the chute and frees himself.

He stands and looks around. Spotting the beat up and incapacitated alien Attacker, Steve gets an angry resolved look. He marches over to the fallen alien Attacker. He scans it quickly, spots a type of door that has been knocked ajar.

With all his might, Steve YANKS the door OPEN.

205 AN ALIEN

205

For the first time we get a quick glance at these aliens, an odd hybrid creature with fluctuating skeletal structure.

The reason we only get a quick glance is because the moment it turns woosily towards us, Steve rears back and SLUGS HIM IN THE FACE, knocking the alien totally unconscious.

His anger finally subsiding, exhaustion taking over, Steve stands over the craft, slowly withdrawing the prized Victory Dance cigar. He lights it and takes a long angry puff.

STEVE

Now that's a close encounter.

CUT TO:

206 INT. TUNNEL - PASADENA FREEWAY - ALCOVE - SAME 206

It's dark. The hole Jasmine had entered is now blocked. She pushes but it won't budge. Exhausted, she ignites her lighter to get a better look around.

As it lights we SEE that we are inside a maintenance garage. Jasmine rushes over to a phone but the line is dead. Taking Dylan by the hand she moves to the large garage doors but she can't open them.

She turns around and sees a large maintenance truck, a huge land-mover shovel attached to the front. She smiles.

207 EXT. GARAGE DOORS - SECONDS LATER 207

With a ROAR the large doors BLAST APART as the maintenance truck SMASHES through. Once out, Jasmine hits the brakes.

208 REVERSE ANGLE - JASMINE'S P.O.V. - DEVASTATED L.A. 208

Total devastation. Remnants of cars and buildings smoldering. Three scattered survivors crawl from the wreckage. A nightmare of destruction. The space craft above, slowly leaving.

DYLAN

Mommy, what happened?

JASMINE

(astonished)

I don't know, baby.

CUT TO:

209 EXT. DESERT - REFUGEE TRAILER CAMP - DAY 209

We see dozens of trailers packing up their gear, some already on the road. Miguel talks with one of the drivers, then hurries away, running.

210 INT. BRENNON TRAILER - SAME 210

Russell wipes down Troy's forehead, he's burning up. Alicia brings over a cold compress.

RUSSELL

You know, you're just like your mother. She was stubborn too. I had to twist her arm to get her to take her medicine.

TROY

I'm sorry, Dad.

(beat; scared)

I'm not going to die like mom, am I?

ALICIA

You're going to be fine.

Miguel comes rushing in, pulls Russell aside.

MIGUEL

I couldn't find anything. Everyone is packing up, they're leaving. Word is a space ship is heading this way.

RUSSELL

We should leave too.

MIGUEL

There's a group heading south, they said there's a hospital just a couple hours away. I think we should follow them.

Russell nods in agreement. A knock on the door. Alicia turns to find a handsome young boy, PHILIP in the doorway holding a bottle of pills.

PHILIP

Penicillin. At least it will help keep his fever down.

ALICIA

It's really nice of you to help us.

PHILIP

I wish I could do more but we're moving out.

ALICIA

(too eager)

We're going with you. I mean, we're going too.

PHILIP

Cool.

Alicia nods, smitten. Philip smiles charmingly and leaves.

CUT TO:

211 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - SAME

211

Back in the passenger section, the President sits with General Grey and Chief of Staff Nimziki. The Technician from the command module is briefing them.

TECHNICIAN

They must be targeting our satellites. We've lost all satellite communication, tracking and mapping.

GENERAL GREY

Have NORAD relay intelligence to our on board computers.

The Technician nods and exits. Defeated, the President slumps sullenly.

GENERAL GREY

We've moved as many of our forces away from the bases as possible but we've already sustained heavy losses.

The President nods his approval absently. Coming out of the bathroom, David overhears.

NIMZIKI

I spoke with the Joint Chiefs when they arrived at NORAD. They agree, we must launch a counter offensive with a full nuclear strike. Hit 'em with everything we've got.

PRESIDENT

Above American soil?

NIMZIKI

If we don't strike soon, there may not be much of an America left to defend.

The Technician returns, his face is white with fear.

GENERAL GREY
What's the latest from NORAD?

OFFICER
It's gone, sir. They've taken out
NORAD.

NIMZIKI
That's impossible...

GENERAL GREY
My God, the Vice
President and the Joint
Chiefs....

NIMZIKI
Mr. President, we must launch. A
delay now would be more costly
than when you waited to evacuate
the cities!

That stings the President. He considers the option. David is
shocked.

DAVID
You can't be seriously considering
firing nuclear weapons?

CONSTANCE
David, don't...

David pushes past her.

DAVID
If you fire nukes, so will the
rest of the world. Do you know
what that kind of fall out will
do? How many innocent people...

The General gets up running interference. Constance tries to
pull David back.

GENERAL GREY
(stern)
Sir, I remind you that you are
just a guest here...

CONSTANCE
(overlapping)
David, please...

DAVID
This is insanity! You'll kill us
and them at the same time.
There'll be nothing left!

NIMZIKI
(interrupting)
Sit down and shut up!

Suddenly Moishe is on his feet, interrupting.

MOISHE
Don't tell him to shut up! You'd
all be dead, were it not for my
David. You didn't do anything to
prevent this!

As everyone is about to besiege Moishe, the President tries to
calm him down.

PRESIDENT
Sir, there wasn't much more we
could have done. We were totally
unprepared for this.

MOISHE
Don't give me unprepared! Since
nineteen fifty whatever you guys
have had that space ship, the
thing you found in New Mexico.

DAVID
(embarrassed)
Dad, please..

MOISHE
What was it, Roswell? You had the
space ship, the bodies, everything
locked up in a bunker, the what is
it, Area fifty one. That's it!
Area fifty one. You knew and you
didn't do nothing!

For the first time in a long time, President Whitmore smiles.

PRESIDENT
Regardless of what the tabloids
have said, there were never any
space crafts recovered by the
government. Take my word for it,
there is no Area 51 and no
recovered space ship.

Chief of Staff Nimziki suddenly clears his throat.

NIMZIKI
Uh, excuse me Mr. President but
that's not entirely accurate.

The President and General Grey turn to Nimziki, shocked.

212 SMASHED AND BURNED OUT CARS

212

laying across the roadway. Suddenly SMASH, Jasmine's maintenance truck BLASTS through.

213 EXT. HIGHWAY - CITY LIMITS - SAME

213

With the massive devastation in the b.g., Jasmine drives the maintenance truck down the highway. In the back, the few survivors she's found.

In the back, four INJURED PASSENGERS lay across the flatbed as a thin, older man, TEDDY tends to them.

214 INT. MAINTENANCE TRUCK - SAME

214

Jasmine spots a TALL MAN, his clothes in tatters RUNNING down the highway, his arms in the air.

TALL MAN

The end hast come! He speaketh
his word and the end hast come!

Jasmine pulls up along side him.

JASMINE

Hop on. We're heading out to El
Toro.

TALL MAN

You cannot defy what hast come, it
is the end!

The tall man moves off, screaming to the heavens. As Jasmine watches him drift away she SEES...

215 OVERTURNED MILITARY HELICOPTER

215

Still smoldering from the crash. A woman can be seen inside, still alive. Jasmine jumps out.

JASMINE

Give me a hand.

Teddy joins Jasmine as they pry open the door. Inside, the pilots have been killed, but Mrs. Whitmore, THE FIRST LADY, lays there in great pain, blood across her blouse.

JASMINE

Let's get her out of here.

They ease her away from the wreckage, laying her on the ground. Dylan comes over, standing next to his mother.

TEDDY

She's bleeding pretty bad.

Suddenly we HEAR the CLICKING of a rifle COCKING.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

Who's got the key?

Jasmine turns and see a REDNECK leveling his rifle at her. Behind him a small damaged sports car pulls up, packed to the gills with stolen, looted appliances.

REDNECK

(yelling to pals)

Looks like I've solved our transportation problem.

JASMINE

Hey, you're welcome to come with us. We're leaving here anyway...

REDNECK

We're not. Give me the key.

(yelling back)

Get 'em off.

Two GUYS rush from their vehicle over to the maintenance truck, pulling the injured off the tailback.

TALL MAN (O.S.)

Repent! Sinners! Repent! The end hast come!

Running up from behind, the Tall Man comes over screaming. The Redneck turns his gun on him.

REDNECK

Back off. This ain't your business.

As the Redneck is distracted, Jasmine spots the bag of fireworks protruding out of Dylan's back pocket.

TALL MAN

You cannot go against the word, brother.

REDNECK

Sure I can.

The Redneck SHOOTS the Tall Man. His buddies laugh.

REDNECK (cont'd)

Now give me that key, bitch.

As he turns back to Jasmine, Boomer starts BARKING wildly. Just as he turns to shoot the dog, Jasmine lights a sky ROCKET from the fireworks bag. The rocket BLASTS into the Redneck, his shirt IGNITING ON FIRE.

The Redneck drops the rifle, attempting to put out the flames, his cronies rush to his aid. Jasmine picks up the gun, moves in on them.

JASMINE

This "bitch" was born in Alabama
with a Daddy who loved to hunt.

(cocking the weapon)

So don't think for one second that
I don't know how to use this.

She FIRES the rifle. Quickly the rednecks scamper away.

CUT TO:

216 EXT. DRY LAKE - DESERT - LATER

216

Dragging a heavy bundle wrapped in his parachute, Steve marches across the desert floor. The alien's ARM/TENTACLE dangles out of the parachute.

Exhausted, Steve stops to wipe his brow. He hears something, turns around.

217 STEVE'S P.O.V. - THE TRAILER ARMADA

217

Several hundred of the trailers from the refugee camp are headed en mass towards him. Smiling, Steve signals them.

The trailers pull up on either side, surrounding him. Miguel leans out of his trailer.

MIGUEL

(sarcastic)

Need a lift?

STEVE

When I flew overhead, I saw some
kind of base, not far.

Confused, Miguel check his map.

MIGUEL

It's not on the map.

STEVE

Trust me, it's there.

CUT TO:

218 EXT. AIR FORCE ONE - LATER 218

Flying over the desert, Air Force One sails over an immense valley, Area 51 below - hangars, a few buildings, a small air strip, not much.

Super: N.I.A. Base - "Area 51," Nevada

219 EXT. RUNWAY - LATER 219

Air Force One lands. Wheels touch down, skid.

220 INT. HANGAR - LATER 220

The large hangar doors open and Air Force One is rolled inside. The President and his entourage are met by a contingent of base personnel led by field operative, LT. MITCHELL. He escorts them to a side hallway.

221 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS 221

Lt. Mitchell walks over to an odd wall switch as the President and his entourage wait in the center of the hall. With a loud hydraulic HUM, the entire hallway begins to SINK DOWN, an enormous ELEVATOR.

PRESIDENT

Why the hell wasn't I told about this place?

NIMZIKI

Two words, Mr. President.
Plausible deniability.

General Grey shoots Nimziki a pissed off look. When the elevator stops, a door SLIDES open.

222 INT. RESEARCH FACILITIES - CONTINUOUS 222

Stepping out of the elevator, they walk into a large state of the art, sterile clean research facility. It is amazingly well staffed and organized.

PRESIDENT

I don't understand. Where did all this come from? How did this get funded?

MOISHE

You didn't think they actually spent ten thousand dollars for a hammer and thirty thousand for a toilet seat, did you?

The President shoots him a look. They are greeted by a group of SCIENTISTS in white coats led by, DR. OKUN.

MITCHELL

Mr. President, I'd like to introduce you to Dr. Okun. He's been heading up our research here for the last fifteen years.

Dr. Okun is an odd, hyper-energetic man who's spent too much time in isolation.

OKUN

Mr. President, a real pleasure. They don't let us out much you know.

PRESIDENT

(uncomfortable)

Yes.

OKUN

Well, I guess you'd like to see the big tamale? Follow me.

They walk up a ramp at the end of the room. Large heavily enforced doors SLIDE open.

223 OMITTED

223

224 INT. STORAGE LAB - CONTINUOUS

224

The group steps inside and nearly gasps at...

225 THE ALIEN ATTACKER

225

Just like the one that chased Steve. The entourage stares in horror and wonder. We can SEE the patch-work repairs they've made on the ship over the years.

OKUN

She's a beaut, ain't she?

Moishe leans close to David and Constance.

MOISHE

(smug)

Never any space ships recovered by the government, huh?

PRESIDENT

We've had this for forty years and you don't know anything about them?

OKUN

Hell no, we know tons about them.
The neatest stuff has only
happened in the last few days.

The President slowly walks around the ship as Okun talks.
David, mouth agape, just stares at it.

OKUN (cont'd)

See, we can't duplicate their type
of power so we've never been able
to experiment. But since these
guys started showing up, all the
gizmos inside turned on. The last
twenty four hours have been really
exciting!

PRESIDENT

(exploding)

People are dying out there. I
don't think "exciting" is the word
I'd choose to describe it!

The room goes silent, letting the President blow off steam.

PRESIDENT

(calming)

What can you tell us about the
enemy we're facing.

OKUN

Not all too dissimilar to us.
Breathes oxygen, comparable
tolerances to heat,
cold...probably why they're
interested in our planet.

(suddenly excited)

Hey, you wanna see them?

226 INT. MEDICAL RESEARCH VAULT - MOMENTS LATER

226

The lights slowly TURN ON, illuminated the vault. Okun leads
the group to a sealed partition.

OKUN

This is vault, or as some of us
have come to call it, the "freak
show."

Okun hits a switch and the sealed partition lifts revealing...

227 FORMALDEHYDE TANKS - ALIENS

227

Three dead aliens float in the milky formaldehyde tanks. The murky fluid and condensation obstructs our view. What we do see is not pretty.

OKUN

When we found them they were wearing bio-mechanical suits. Once we got them off, we were able to learn a great deal about their anatomy; eyes, ears, bipolar digestive system...no vocal cords though. We're assuming they communicate with each other through other means.

David cannot contain his fascination. He steps forward.

DAVID

What kind of other means? Hand signals, body language?

OKUN

Some kind of extra sensory perception. Telepathy.

PRESIDENT

Can they be killed?

OKUN

These three died in the crash. Their bodies are as frail as our own. You just have to get past their technology, which is, I'm sorry to say, far more advanced.

The President turns to David.

PRESIDENT

You unlocked a part of that technology. You cracked their code.

DAVID

All I did was stumble onto their signal. I don't know how helpful I can be...

PRESIDENT

Show them what you've discovered. Work together. We've got to find a way to beat them.

CUT TO:

228 EXT. SECURITY GATE - SAME

228

Four armed GUARDS watch the gate. An armada of trucks and trailers heads right for them. They move into position to block their entrance as a blue pick-up skids to a halt before them. Steve stands up from the back of the pick up.

GUARD

Sorry, Lt. Colonel, I can't open
the gates without clearance.

STEVE

You want to see my clearance?

Impatiently Steve grabs the Guard by the collar, pulling him over the side of the truck putting him face to face with the bundled parachute in the flatbed. Steve rips the fabric aside revealing...

229 THE ALIEN CREATURE

229

Still unconscious, the alien stirs. The Guard JUMPS BACK, shitting in his pants. Quickly he signals for the other to open the gate.

The armada quickly drives past.

230 BLACKNESS

230

Total darkness. Suddenly light pours in as a door is open. We see the faces of Okun, David and three technicians all peering at us with inquisitive expressions.

OKUN

See the gizmos flashing?

231 REVERSE - INSIDE ALIEN CRAFT

231

Sure enough, tons of gizmos with lights flashing. High tech meets organic organisms. This alien ship looks familiar to our own technology and completely different at the same time.

OKUN (cont'd)

We've been working around the
clock trying to get a fix on all
this crap. Some stuff we figured
out right away.

David climbs in, fascinated. He touches everything. Okun points to everything as he describes it.

OKUN (cont'd)

This thing we're pretty sure is the life support for the cabin, this do-hickey over here is connected with the engines, this crap...we have no idea what that stuff is for.

David is transfixed by it. He stares at the small screens with flashing light patterns on them.

OKUN (cont'd)

But this over here is clearly what they use to navigate and guide the craft.

But David still stares at the small screens.

DAVID

Someone grab my laptop for me?

One of the technicians rushes off as Okun leans close.

OKUN

Find something interesting?

DAVID

Maybe.

The technician hands David his retrieved laptop which he quickly flips open and turns on.

DAVID

These patterns here, they're repeating sequentially, just like...

David turns his laptop around for Okun to see. The pattern on David's laptop flashes identically as the alien screen.

DAVID (cont'd)

...their countdown signal. Their using this frequency for computer communications. It's how they coordinate their ships.

OKUN

You know, you're really starting to make us look bad.

The two men exchange a smile. Another TECHY pops his head inside.

TECHY
(out of breath)
They got one! They got one,
alive!

232 INT. HALLWAY OFF MAIN HANGAR - AREA 51 - SAME

232

The bundled alien lays on a stretcher that's wheeled quickly into the hall. Okun and his staff surround it. Trailing behind them is Steve, Russell and Miguel.

OKUN
How long has it been unconscious?

RUSSELL
Excuse me Doctor...

STEVE
Three hours.

OKUN
Get him into containment, stat.

RUSSELL
My boy is very sick, he needs
immediate attention.

Okun ignores Russell, hitting the elevator switch on the wall, the room begins its hydraulic HUM.

OKUN
He's drying out. I want him
sprayed down with saline.

Russell SLAMS his fist against the switch, the room stops. He GRABS a doctor nearby, gets in his face.

RUSSELL
My boy is slipping into a diabetic
coma. If you don't do something
about it right now he will die.

Miguel is surprised and proud of Russell as he holds DOCTOR ISAACS, meaning business.

DR. ISAACS
O'Haver, Miller, come with me.
(to Russell)
Take us to him.

CUT TO:

233 EXT. ROAD - MAINTENANCE TRUCK - NIGHT

233

Headlights pierce the darkness as the maintenance truck rolls to a stop. Jasmine climbs down out of the truck, her face ashen.

She walks past a sign reading: El Toro Marine Corps Air Station. Tears begin to roll from her eyes. We follow her gaze to see...

234 EXT. EL TORO MARINE CORPS AIR STATION - CONTINUOUS

234

The entire facility is smoldering, the last remnants of the fire burning itself to extinction. Jasmine is devastated.

CUT TO:

235 INT. AREA 51 COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT

235

General Grey and Nimziki are in a heated argument.

GENERAL GREY

You were the head of the National Intelligence Agency! You knew all about this. When were you planning on informing the rest of us!?

NIMZIKI

It had been deemed classified.

GENERAL GREY

Christ, why didn't you say anything about this when they first arrived? You could have warned us before we launched a counter attack that cost us hundreds of American pilots!

Just then the President enters along with Constance and some other ADVISORS. He examines a paper map of the United States, tacked to the wall, each major city circled in black.

PRESIDENT WHITMORE

Atlanta, Chicago and Philadelphia, destroyed?

GENERAL GREY

(composing himself)

And there are scattered reports of sightings over Miami, Ft. Worth, and Memphis.

The President and his team take seats at the large conference table.

GENERAL GREY (cont'd)
We've learned that NATO and
western allied installations were
the first to be taken out. We
were next. The knew exactly where
and how to hit us.

Grey sneaks an accusatory glare at Nimziki.

PRESIDENT
And our forces?

GENERAL GREY
We're down to approximately
fifteen percent, Sir.
(beat)
If you calculate the time it takes
them to destroy a city and move
on, we're looking at world wide
destruction of every major city
within the next thirty six hours.

PRESIDENT
We're being exterminated.

The room is quiet. Constance runs her fingers through her
hair. The door to the room opens and Lt. Mitchell enters with
Steve.

MITCHELL
Mr. President, this is Lt.
Colonel Steven Hill.

The President quickly gets to his feet, anxiously shaking
Steve's hand.

PRESIDENT
Lieutenant, congratulations.

STEVE
Thank you, sir.

PRESIDENT
Where is the prisoner now?

MITCHELL
We have him in isolation. The
doctors are very hopeful he will
survive.

PRESIDENT
I'd like to see him.

MITCHELL

Yes, sir.

The General is concerned but the President is determined.
They head for the door.

STEVE

(to General Grey)

General, I'm anxious to get back
to El Toro.

GENERAL GREY

Didn't anyone tell you? I'm
sorry. El Toro was destroyed in
the attack.

Steve is shattered, he had no idea.

CUT TO:

236 EXT. EL TORO BASE - NIGHT

236

The injured are gathered around a small camp fire. Jasmine
walks up, dumping a box full of charred can goods.

JASMINE

These should last us a while.

As Margaret tries to move, she winces in pain. Jasmine rushes
to her aid. The color from her face drained, Margaret looks
like she's taking a turn for the worse.

JASMINE

Don't move. Stay still.

Jasmine adjusts the bandages as Margaret turns and sees Dylan
curled up next to Boomer, too adorable. Slowly he starts to
wake up.

MARGARET

Your son.

JASMINE

He's my angel.

MARGARET

Was his father stationed here?

JASMINE

He wasn't his father. I was kinda
hoping he'd want the job, though.

Jasmine becomes sad, remembering. Margaret changes the
subject.

MARGARET

So, what do you do for a living?

JASMINE

I'm a dancer.

MARGARET

Really? Ballet?

JASMINE

(laughs)

No. Exotic.

MARGARET

Oh. Sorry.

JASMINE

Don't be. I'm not. It's good money.

(re: Dylan)

'Sides, he's worth it.

The bandages changed, Jasmine sits down next to Margaret.

MARGARET

And when the dancing's over? What about your future?

JASMINE

Funny, it used to scare me when I thought about the future.

(looking around)

Guess it doesn't really matter anymore.

Dylan comes walking over.

JASMINE

Dylan, come here. I want you to meet the First Lady.

MARGARET

(surprised)

I thought you didn't recognize me.

JASMINE

Didn't want to say anything. I voted for the other guy.

CUT TO:

237 INT. CONTAINMENT LAB - NIGHT

237

Okun and two Medical assistants examine the alien creature. His arms and chest have been strapped down to the examining table.

For the first time we get a good look at the head of this creature, long tentacled-type cords interlocked, covering the face. The doctors attach clamps to each of the cords.

OKUN

Everyone ready?

The doctors exchange nervous glances, nod to each other. At the same moment all they pull on the clamps, unraveling the interlocked cords. As the cords unravel, se SEE that this is in fact a bio-mechanical SUIT as we REVEAL...

238 THE ALIEN

238

Beneath the cords lay the unconscious face of the alien, his skin translucent, his body fluids, capillaries, muscle tissue, transparent. Quickly the doctors attach sensors to the alien's skin.

OKUN

Do we have life support monitors recording?

MED ASSIST #2

Yes. If we fuck up it'll all be on tape.

OKUN

Can we get some ventilation in here? I can't take this smell.

MED ASSIST #2

They've conquered space travel but not b.o.

As Okun begins to put on a pair of surgical gloves he suddenly grabs his forehead.

MED ASSIST #1

You all right?

OKUN

Yeah. It's just that stink gives me a headache.

MED ASSIST #2

He's moving!

Instantly everyone's attention is riveted to the arm of the alien as it moves beneath the sheet. Unseen by the others the alien creature's EYES OPEN.

Another SHARP PAIN hits Okun who SCREAMS, stumbling backwards grabbing his head. The others turn in surprise.

239		239
THRU	OMITTED	THRU
240		240
241	THE ALIEN	241

suddenly SPRINGS UP, the restraining straps SNAPPING. Before Med #2 can react, one of the alien's tentacles SMASHES her across the face. She is sent sprawling backwards. Recovering Med #2 looks back and sees...

242	LOW ANGLE - THE ALIEN	242
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Standing before her. In a wink of an eye, he ATTACKS, leaping on her.

Together they TUMBLE back into a formaldehyde tank. Hoses are ripped from their sides and STEAM pours out. We get quick glimpse of their struggle as the steam engulfs them.

243	INT. HALLWAY - SAME	243
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Mitchell leads the Presidential party down the hall. They turn and enter the Medical Lab.

244	INT. CONTAINMENT LAB - CONTINUOUS	244
-----	-----------------------------------	-----

The group slows as they enter the room. They see the containment room through the glass is covered with white steam. Nothing can be seen. It's eerily quiet.

Cautiously they approach. Suddenly Okun is SLAMMED AGAINST the glass partition, the creature's tentacles wrapped around him. Pressed firmly to the glass, his eyes are shut, his expression pained, but when he speaks the voice is angry.

OKUN/ALIEN

Release...me

MITCHELL

(to guard)

Open the door. Get him out of there.

Suspicious, General Grey stops him.

GENERAL GREY

Wait.

(to Okun)

Can you hear me?

OKUN/ALIEN

Will kill...release me. Now!

They follow the tentacles with their eyes, up to the ceiling of the containment tank. Suddenly the alien LEAPS DOWN, startling them, landing before them behind the glass.

We see he's holding Okun against the glass, speaking THROUGH HIM. This is the first real good look we get at this bizarre creature. Everyone in the room is repulsed and compelled by it at the same time.

245 EXT. AREA 51 - NIGHT

245

Through the hundreds of campers and trailers parked outside, Steve runs past until he reaches the open tarmac.

A transport helicopter sits on the edge of the landing area. Steve runs up to it and climbs inside.

246 INT. TRANSPORT HELICOPTER - CONTINUOUS

246

Steve quickly starts its engines, preparing to take off. A SOLDIER rushes over to the cockpit.

SOLDIER

(yelling)

What the hell are you doing? Get out of there!

STEVE

I'm just going to borrow it.

The Soldier pulls out his pistol, taking aim.

SOLDIER

No you're not, sir.

STEVE

You really want to shoot me?

Steve stares the Soldier down. Reluctantly he lowers his gun.

SOLDIER

Shit. I'm gonna catch hell for this.

Steve smiles and gives him a quick salute then TAKES OFF. Quickly the bird RISES UP and darts off into the night.

247 INT. MEDICAL LAB - SAME

247

The President has moved closer to the glass and is talking with the alien. The alien uses Okun like a ventriloquist's dummy.

PRESIDENT

Why did you people come here?

OKUN/ALIEN

Air...water..your "sun."

PRESIDENT

Where do your people come from?

(no answer)

Where is your home?

OKUN/ALIEN

Here...now.

PRESIDENT

And before here?

OKUN/ALIEN

Many worlds...

PRESIDENT

Can we negotiate a truce? Is there room for co-existence?

(no answer)

Can there be peace between us?

OKUN/ALIEN

Peace? No peace.

PRESIDENT

What do you want us to do?

OKUN/ALIEN

Die.

The Alien moves closer to the glass staring at the President. Suddenly the president clutches his head in pain.

NIMZIKI

Mr. President?

OKUN/ALIEN

We kill you...all.

The pain becomes more severe and the President SCREAMS OUT. There is general panic as people rush to the President's aide.

GENERAL
(to Mitchell)
Is that glass bullet proof?

MITCHELL
No sir.

The General draws his pistol. Mitchell and the other military officers follow his lead. Simultaneously they all begin to FIRE!

The glass SHATTERS into a billion pieces. The Alien is cut to ribbons, falling backwards.

The President collapses. So does Okun. A STAFFER rushes over to Okun, checks his pulse.

STAFFER
He's dead.

General Grey moves to the President who slowly recovers.

GENERAL GREY
Mr. President, are you okay?

Woozily the President sits up, a strange look in his eye.

PRESIDENT
He wanted me to understand. He
communicated with me.
(turning to Grey)
They're like locusts. They travel
from planet to planet, their whole
civilization. After they've
consumed every natural resource
they move on. And we're next.

The President stands with a new resolve. He stares at the dead alien on the floor.

PRESIDENT
(cold)
Prepare a nuclear strike.

248 INT. STORAGE LAB - MINUTES LATER

248

The research staff are working near the recovered alien attacker. Constance comes rushing in. She looks around for David. Through the glass of one of the offices she sees him.

249 INT. OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

249

Holding a bottle of Jack Daniels, David fishes through a small refrigerator as Constance enters.

DAVID
Just my luck, no ice.

CONSTANCE
I take it you've heard.

DAVID
A toast to the end of the world.

David toasts her with the bottle, takes a swig.

CONSTANCE
He didn't come to this decision
lightly.

David nods, he doesn't want to argue. He smiles cynically.

DAVID
You still believe in him.

CONSTANCE
He's a good man.

DAVID
Better be. You left me for him.

CONSTANCE
I wanted a career. Didn't you
ever want to be part of something
special?

David stares daggers at her.

DAVID
I was part of something special.

Constance realizes he means their marriage. She's hurt him
and can see it. She turns and leaves.

CUT TO:

250 EXT. DARK SKIES - NIGHT

250

A black shadow is vaguely seen in the dark night. As we pass
some moonlit clouds we recognize the shadow is, in fact, a B-2
STEALTH BOMBER.

As we WIDEN, we see that the bomber is part of a squadron of
eight. These mighty winged giants fly together in attack
formation.

251 INT. COMMAND CENTER - AREA 51 - SAME

251

A tracking screen comes to life, eight blips flashing.

TECHNICIAN #1
We've got the AWAC on line.
Signals coming in now.

The President's group takes their positions behind the technicians.

252 EXT. BLACK SKIES - NIGHT 252

The eight B-2 Stealth Bombers break formation, each heading off to their different target destinations.

253 INT. COMMAND CENTER - SAME 253

On a larger map, we see the eight target destinations and the planes heading for them.

PRESIDENT
Who will we reach first?

COMMANDER
Houston, Texas. Intercept ETA,
six minutes and counting down.

PRESIDENT
Oh my God, Houston.

GENERAL GREY
The major cities have been
deserted. Civilian casualties
should be at a minimum, sir.

One map screen, ENLARGES, tracking the bomber on route to Houston.

253A EXT. LIQUOR STORE - OUTSIDE HOUSTON - NIGHT 253A

Looters take all they can carry through the broken glass store front. A large heavily armored TANK rolls up front.

253B INT. ARMORED TANK - SAME 253B

Nervous military technicians work equipment as their TANK COMMANDER pulls down a periscope.

253C TANK COMMANDER'S P.O.V. - SPACE SHIP OVER HOUSTON 253C

Through the periscopes cross-hairs we SEE downtown Houston, the City Destroyer space ships settling in above it.

254 EXT. B-2 STEALTH BOMBER - SAME 254

Silhouetted against the shimmering waters on the bay, the Stealth bomber can be seen as it approaches Houston.

255 INT. B-2 STEALTH BOMBER - COCKPIT - SAME

255

The flight crew works their computers (similar readouts are seen at command center). The Multi-Function Displays (MFD) flashing before each crew member.

PILOT

We have laser targeting locked.

256 INT. COMMAND CENTER - SAME

256

TECHNICIAN #1

Target is locked, sir. Do you wish to deploy?

Everyone turns to the President who does not answer.

GENERAL GREY

Mr. President, do you wish to deploy?

Still there is no answer.

NIMZIKI

Mr. President?

PRESIDENT

(softly)

Deploy.

257 EXT. B-2 STEALTH BOMBER - WEAPONS BAY - SAME

257

The bay doors open and a large Tactical Nuclear Cruise Missile drops down, flies parallel with the bomber as it adjusts its radar and laser tracking. Suddenly it SHOTS OFF.

The bomber BANKS AWAY.

258 INT. B-2 STEALTH BOMBER - SAME

258

We see the horizon twisting away as we bank off from target.

PILOT

She's away.

259 INT. COMMAND CENTER - SAME

259

On the big map we see one FLASHING target line tracing the missile as it approaches Houston.

PRESIDENT

(to himself)

May our children forgive us.

260 INT. ARMORED TANK - OUTSIDE HOUSTON - NIGHT 260
The Tank Commander readjusts the periscope.

261 TANK COMMANDER'S P.O.V. - SPACESHIP & B-2 STEALTH BOMBER 261
We follow the Cruise Missile as it guides itself on a direct collision course with the space craft.

262 INT. COMMAND CENTER - SAME 262
The targeting map shows how close the missile is, nearly on top of the target. Everyone in the room holds their breath.

263 EXT. SPACE CRAFT - SAME 263
The nuke speeds closer. It HITS the protective shield and DETONATES. A FLASH OF LIGHT.

264 WIDE ANGLE - HOUSTON 264
With the B-2 Stealth Bomber in the foreground, the city behind it vanishes in a FLASH OF LIGHT, blinding us.

265 INT. COMMAND CENTER - SAME 265
We can see the extent of the explosion on the targeting map, tracking it - an expanding ring around Houston.

NIMZIKI
(excited)
It's a hit!

The others are still waiting. The monitor shows the night vision picture of the growing MUSHROOM CLOUD rising above the city.

266 EXT. HOUSTON - WIDE - SAME 266
The MUSHROOM CLOUD engulfs the horizon.

267 EXT. ARMORED TANK - SAME 267
Rocked by the massive explosion, the shock wave ROCKS the armored tank but doesn't destroy it.

268 INT. ARMORED TANK - SAME 268
The men inside are KNOCKED around, hard from the explosion.

269 INT. COMMAND CENTER - SAME 269
NIMZIKI
We got the bastards!

General Grey shoots Nimziki a look. The President holds up a hand, silencing the room.

PRESIDENT

Can they see it? Did it destroy
the target?

270 TANK COMMANDER'S P.O.V. THROUGH PERISCOPE - SAME 270

As the cloud begins to dissipate we see THE SPACE CRAFT IS
STILL THERE, completely unharmed.

271 INT. ARMORED TANK - SAME 271

TANK COMMANDER

Negative. Target remains.

272 INT. COMMAND CENTER - SAME 272

On the monitors as well, we can see the target remains. The
air is let out of the room, everyone deflated.

PRESIDENT

Call them back.

NIMZIKI

The other bombers might have more
luck. We shouldn't just give
up...

PRESIDENT

I said call them back.

As the technicians call the bombers away, the President sinks
into a depression. His last hope of survival gone.

CUT TO:

273 EXT. EL TORO MARINE CORPS AIR STATION - NIGHT 273

Jasmine keeps Margaret company as the rest sleep around the
last flames of their campfire. From the worried expression on
Jasmine's face we can tell that Margaret has gotten worse, her
wounds bleeding badly.

A WIND kicks up, the sound of an ENGINE approaching. Jasmine
squints her eyes looking up into the wind when a BRIGHT LIGHT
engulfs her.

274 JASMINE'S P.O.V. - LIGHTS - NIGHT 274

Bright lights in the sky growing nearer. Slowly the others
begin to wake up, frightened as the lights INTENSIFY.

The others slowly begin to retreat but Jasmine stands, staring defiantly. A smile creeps across her face as she sees that the lights belong to...

275 TRANSPORT HELICOPTER

275

The Transport helicopter touches down and Steve leaps out, racing towards Jasmine. Overwhelmed, Jasmine jumps into his arms.

JASMINE

You're late.

STEVE

You know how I like to make a big entrance.

They kiss.

CUT TO:

276 INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

276

The double doors burst open as the President carrying his young daughter marches through. Doctor ISAACS comes over to them.

PRESIDENT

How is she?

ISAACS

I'm sorry, Mr. President. If only we could have gotten to her sooner.

The President puts his daughter down as he sees...

277 PRESIDENT'S P.O.V. - MARGARET

277

Margaret lays in bed, doctors and nurses surrounding her. Patricia rushes over.

ISAACS

She's bleeding internally.
There's nothing else we can do.

Stunned, The President watches as Patricia hugs her mother.

MARGARET

Hiya Munchkin.

PATRICIA

Mommy we were worried. We didn't know where you were.

MARGARET
I'm right here, baby.

Recovering, the President nods for the doctors to leave the room. As they begin to march out, he makes his way over to his wife and daughter.

PRESIDENT
Honey, why don't you wait outside
so Mommy can get some rest.

Patricia kisses her mother, says goodbye and leaves. Out of sight, Margaret winces, fading away. The President grabs her hand for support. She squeezes tightly.

MARGARET
(through tears)
I'm scared, Tom.

PRESIDENT
It's okay. The doctors said
you're going to be just fine.

Margaret smiles at the man she knows all too well.

MARGARET
Liar.

The look between them says more than any words.

278 INT. HALLWAY - OUTSIDE MARGARET'S ROOM - LATER

278

The President exits the room, overcome with emotion. Constance, the doctors and some medical crew move to comfort him. He holds them off with a gesture.

He looks up and sees Jasmine, Steve and Dylan down the hall. He pushes through the crowd and makes his way over to them.

JASMINE
I'm so sorry.

PRESIDENT
I just wanted to thank you.
You're a very brave woman.

Across the hall, Patricia sits in a chair, waiting. Whitmore walks over to her and kneels down next to his small child.

PATRICIA
Is Mommy sleeping now?

PRESIDENT
Yes, baby. Mommy's sleeping.

FADE OUT:

279 A GARBAGE CAN

279

Topples over with a BANG! A foot steps in and starts kicking trash all over.

280 EXT. AREA 51 - NIGHT

280

David is drunkenly knocking everything over, making a gigantic mess. Moishe comes up from behind, restraining him.

MOISHE

David, David! What the hell are you doing!?

DAVID

I'm making a mess.

MOISHE

This I can see.

DAVID

We've gotta burn the rain forest, Pops. Dump toxic waste, pollute the air, rip up the ozone. Maybe if we screw this planet up enough they won't want it anymore.

MOISHE

David, you're drunk.

David slips, falls on his ass, hard. Moishe helps him back up on his feet.

MOISHE

I think you better sleep this off. Go back inside before you catch a cold.

Slowly David looks up towards Moishe, an idea.

DAVID

Pops, you're a genius!

MOISHE

What'd I say?

DAVID

A cold? Of course.

Sobered, David jumps up, kisses his father and bolts inside.

CUT TO:

281 INT. STORAGE LAB - DAY

281

A large crowd has been gathered here at the lab. General Grey and Nimziki walk up to Constance.

NIMZIKI

All right, Connie, we're here.
What's this all about?

CONSTANCE

I really have no idea. He just
said to bring everyone down here.

Steve shows Dylan the alien space craft.

DYLAN

Does that thing fly in outer
space?

Steve looks up at the craft admiringly.

STEVE

It certainly does.

When the President enters a technician rushes over and knocks on the hatch door on the alien attacker. The door swings open and David climbs down.

Grabbing a coke can from the "recycle" trash bin, David places the empty can on top of the alien attacker. David turns and faces the gathering.

DAVID

Could everyone please step back
away from the craft.

They do and David nods to a Technician inside the craft. The Technician disappears inside, closing the door behind him. A loud HUM emits from the craft. David has to yell over it.

DAVID

Lt. Mitchell, would you mind
drawing your pistol?

MITCHELL

What?

DAVID

From where you're standing, do you
think you could shoot that can off
the alien craft?

Mitchell shrugs affirmatively. David gestures for him to try. Taking aim, Mitchell SHOOTs.

The bullet RICOCHETS off the attacker's protective shield. Several people in the crowd duck, afraid of being hit by the errant bullet.

DAVID

Sorry 'bout that. You see, it's protected by the craft's shields. We can't penetrate their defenses.

NIMZIKI

We know that already. What's your point?

David walks over to his laptop, now connected directly to the craft by cables and starts typing furiously.

DAVID

My point is if we can't beat their defenses, then we must get around them.

David stops typing and stares at his wrist watch, silently counting down.

DAVID

Lt. Mitchell, would you please try to shoot it again?

Reluctantly Mitchell obliges. This time the can is BLOWN OFF THE CRAFT. Everyone in the room is shocked. The Technician re-opens the craft's door and the loud HUM disappears.

GENERAL GREY

How did you do that?

DAVID

I gave it a cold.

The President is fascinated, he steps closer. Moishe beams proudly at his smart son. Constance is amazed.

DAVID (cont'd)

More accurately, I gave it a virus. A computer virus.

David turns his laptop around for the President to see.

GENERAL GREY

Are you telling us you can send out a signal that will disable all their shields?

DAVID

Just as they used our satellites
against us, we can use their own
signal against them.

David walks over to a diagram he's made showing the
relationship between the Mother Ship, the Space Crafts and the
smaller alien attackers.

DAVID (cont'd)

If we plant the virus directly
into the mother ship, it would
then filter down into all the
corresponding ships below.

NIMZIKI

And just how do we infect the
"Mother Ship" with the virus?

David gestures to the alien attacker behind him.

DAVID

We'll have to fly their craft out
of our atmosphere and dock with
the mother ship.

Intrigued Steve turns as looks back at the alien attacker,
sizing it up. David points to a satellite photo of the
underbelly of the Mother Ship.

DAVID (cont'd)

We can enter here, upload the
virus and set off an explosion
that could disable it. This would
disorient the smaller ships below
and buy you some time to take them
out.

Constance reacts, realizing David's participation in the plan.

NIMZIKI

This is ridiculous.

GENERAL GREY

How long would their shields be
down?

DAVID

Once they discover the virus it
could be a matter of minutes.

NIMZIKI

You want us to co-ordinate a massive world wide counter strike with a window of only a few minutes?!

GENERAL GREY

With their shields down it might be possible.

NIMZIKI

Please, you're not buying into any of this nonsense are you? We don't have the manpower or the resources to launch that kind of a campaign.

(gesturing to the alien ship)

Not to mention that this whole cockamamie plan is dependent on a machine that no one in the world is qualified to operate.

STEVE (O.S.)

I wouldn't say that, sir.

Everybody turns to Steve who steps through the crowd.

STEVE

I've seen them in action. I've watched their maneuvers. With your permission, sir, I'd like the opportunity to try.

NIMZIKI

That thing's a wreck. It crash landed back in the fifties! We don't even know if it's capable of flying.

David turns to the Technicians.

DAVID

Remove the clamps!

Technicians move to the large holding clamps on either side of the craft. With a loud CLANK, the clamps are pulled away.

For a moment the hulking craft TEETERS unevenly, but quickly stabilizes, FLOATING ABOVE THEM.

DAVID

Any other questions?

Everyone stares at the floating ship with wonder.

PRESIDENT

Let's do it.

282 INT. HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

282

Constance, General Grey and the President are walking down the hall. Nimziki rushes to catch up.

NIMZIKI

I understand that you're upset
over the death of your wife but
that's no excuse for making
another fatal mistake...

The President whirls, grabs Nimziki and SLAMS him against the wall. Holding him tight, the President gets in his face.

PRESIDENT

The only mistake I made was
appointing a sniveling little
weasel like you Chief of Staff.

Constance is about to intervene when General Grey stops her.

PRESIDENT (cont'd)

But this is a mistake, I am
thankful to say, I do not have to
live with. Mr. Nimziki, you're
fired.

The President releases him and turns to General Grey.

PRESIDENT (cont'd)

Organize every plane you can find
and get me some Goddamned pilots
to fly them.

GENERAL GREY

Yes, Sir.

He storms off leaving everyone stunned.

NIMZIKI

He can't do that.

CONSTANCE

(amazed)
He just did.

CUT TO:

283 OMITTED

283

284 INT. MILITARY TENT - CONTINUOUS

284

Four BRITISH AIR PILOTS are gathered around a table going over a map. One pilot, REGINALD, is in charge.

REGINALD

...we've been told that there may
be additional re-enforcements in
hiding near the Golan Straights...

Suddenly the flap to the tent opens. All the pilots draw their pistols frightening the ARAB PILOT who stands in the doorway. The Arab Pilot speaks quickly in Arabic.

REGINALD

What the hell's he saying?

THOMSON

(explaining)

Seems they're getting a signal.
Old Morse code.

285 EXT. DRY LAKE - SECONDS LATER

285

As they step out of the tent we SEE more than a HUNDRED FIGHTER PLANES from different nations parked around them. They've all gone into hiding out here in the desert, divided into many smaller camps.

Reginald and Thomson follow their Arab cohort, walking through the many other campsites. Thomson gets some stares from the IRAQI PILOTS.

REGINALD

I still get believe this.

THOMSON

The Iraqis don't appear altogether
too pleased with this arrangement.

REGINALD

How do you think the Israelis
feel?

Sure enough a campsite of ISRAELI PILOTS sits very near by.

286 ANGLE - ARABIAN AIR FORCE CAMP

286

Dozens of Arab pilots are gathered around a large radio as the Morse code comes through. Thomson quickly kneels down, taking notes.

THOMSON

It's from the Americans. They
want to organize a counter
offensive.

REGINALD

It's about bloody time. What do
they plan to do?

287 EXT. ICE PLATEAU - SIBERIA - DAY

287

Several Russian Pilots are gathered around a radio, their
dozen MIG FIGHTERS standing behind them.

RUSSIAN #1

(subtitled)

They claim to be able to bring
down their shields.

RUSSIAN #2

When do they want to attack?

288 EXT. VOLCANO BASE - FUJI - DAY

288

At the base of a large Volcano in Fuji, several Japanese
attack helicopters stand near their pilots, gathered around a
radio.

JAPANESE PILOT

(subtitled)

The attack begins in thirteen
hours.

CUT TO:

289 INT. AREA 51 - WAR ROOM - DAY

289

A large world map has been constructed. Several sites are
marked with stickers reading: COMBAT READY. Another sticker
is put onto Mt. Fuji.

Striding in, the President surveys the war room. General Grey
rushes over to meet him.

PRESIDENT

How're we doing?

GENERAL GREY

Better then we thought.

General Grey leads the President over to the wall map.

GENERAL GREY

We have confirmed divisions of troops from different armies all around the world. Most of Europe, the Middle East and Asia are battle ready.

PRESIDENT

And our troops here?

GENERAL GREY

We've been collecting planes from all over but...

PRESIDENT

But what, General?

GENERAL GREY

Pilots, sir. We don't have enough people to get them in the air.

PRESIDENT

Then find them.

CUT TO:

290 INT. BRENNON TRAILER - NIGHT

290

Troy is sleeping peacefully in his bed. Russell sits at the kitchen table as Miguel enters.

MIGUEL

How's he doing?

RUSSELL

Just fell asleep. He's gonna be just fine. Join me in a little celebration?

Russell holds up his bottle of Jack Daniels. Clearly he's been drinking again. Miguel is crestfallen. Pissed he turns and storms out.

RUSSELL

Miguel. Don't be mad. Miguel!

Drunkenly, Russell chases after him.

291 EXT. AREA 51 - REFUGEE CAMP - CONTINUOUS

291

Making his way through the campers, Russell SEES a group of refugees surround some MILITARY OFFICERS who address them.

OFFICER
(through megaphone)
...We're planning to launch a
counter offensive...

Russell wanders over towards them.

OFFICER (cont'd)
...with our depleted manpower we
must ask that anyone with any
flight experience come forward.
Military training is preferable
but anyone who can fly a plane
could be useful...

Russell pushes his way through the crowd.

RUSSELL
(slurred)
I can fly, I mean, I'm a pilot.

The officer just stares at the bottle of Jack Daniels still in
his hand.

OFFICER
Sorry Sir.

Russell gets into his face, desperate.

RUSSELL
You don't understand. I've gotta
be part of this. This is
important to me. They ruined my
life.

OFFICER
Why don't you go somewhere and
sleep it off.

The Officers move on, taking a few volunteers with them.
Russell watches them go, dejected. Angrily, he throws the
bottle of Jack, SMASHING it.

292 OMITTED

292

293 INT. STORAGE LAB - NIGHT

293

A large MISSILE slides back into a LAUNCHER that has been
attached to the top of the alien attacker. Some workers PAINT
over the patch-work repairs. Below, Mitchell briefs Steve and
David.

MITCHELL
We've hid the launcher in the
ship's manifold.

Mitchell takes a small black box from a table near by.

MITCHELL (cont'd)

This will be attached to the ships
main console.

STEVE

It's just like an AMRAAM launch
pad on the stealths.

MITCHELL

Exactly. Use it the same way.
Only the nuke won't detonate on
impact. You'll have another
thirty seconds to get as far away
as you can.

DAVID

I'll see how they're doing with
the radio transmitter.

STEVE

(checking his watch)
Oh shit, we're late.

DAVID

We'll meet you there.

Steve dashes off as David moves towards the attacker.
Constance has been eavesdropping. She walks to David

CONSTANCE

Thirty seconds? Isn't that
cutting it a little too close?

DAVID

We'll be well on our way out of
there before we shoot that thing
off.

David leans under the attacker where a TECHNICIAN is attaching
another device.

TECHNICIAN

It's the strongest SHF transmitter
we could get. It'll tell us when
you've uploaded the virus.

DAVID

Then cross your fingers the
shields go down.

David turns and walks away, Constance following.

CONSTANCE

Why you? I don't understand why you can't just show someone how to plant the virus, somebody trained for this kind of mission?

DAVID

If anything goes wrong I'll have to think quickly, adjust the signal, who knows?

David stops, picking up a small trash can labeled "recycle."

DAVID

(smiling)
You know how I'm always trying to save the planet. This is my chance.

David rushes off. Constance watches him leave.

CONSTANCE

(to herself)
Now he gets ambitious.

294 INT. SMALL GATHERING HALL 294

Jasmine is kneeling as Dylan tries to zip up the back of her dress.

DYLAN

It's too tight.

JASMINE

I had to borrow it. I guess that's good enough.

Jasmine stands, turns to Dylan.

JASMINE

How do I look?

She looks great. But Dylan only gives her the "so-so" hand gesture.

JASMINE

You're a lot of help.

The door behind her flies open and Steve marches in.

JASMINE

You're late.

STEVE

You know me...

JASMINE

I know, you like to make a big entrance.

Steve moves next to Jasmine, takes her hand.

STEVE

Before we do this, I want you to know I'm sorry.

JASMINE

Sorry for what?

STEVE

(serious)

I should have done this a long long time ago.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

Do you have the ring?

As we REVERSE ANGLE we see that we are in a military CHAPEL, a large crucifix on the wall. A CHAPLAIN stands by the altar.

STEVE

You bet.

Steve pulls out the famous "dolphin" ring.

CHAPLAIN

Witnesses?

Just then the doors open and David and Constance enter taking seats on opposing sides of the isle.

CHAPLAIN

Then let's get this show on the road.

Steve and Jasmine take their places at the altar. Jasmine is radiant. Dylan rushes up and joins them.

As the ceremony begins, David and Constance share a pregnant glance. Slowly they reach across the isle and hold hands as Steve and Jasmine exchange their vows.

CUT TO:

Slowly spread apart revealing the myriad of different planes that have been gathered. Pilots, flight crews and refugees prepare for the battle.

Walking out the President scans the motley collection of planes; old, new, high-tech, low-tech.

GENERAL GREY

Beggars can't be choosers, Sir.

Nodding in agreement, the President walks among the rank and file. Slowly they turn their attention to the President.

PRESIDENT

Good morning. In less than one hour planes from here and all around the world will launch the largest aerial battle in the history of mankind...

(beat)

Mankind. The word has new meaning for all of us now. We are reminded not of our petty differences but of our common interests.

Constance, David and Moishe join the group, listening. Even David is moved.

PRESIDENT (cont'd)

Perhaps it's fate that today, July the Fourth, we will once again fight for our freedom. Not from tyranny, persecution or oppression. But from annihilation. We're fighting for our right to live, to exist. From this day on, the fourth day of July will no longer be remembered as an American holiday but as the day that all of mankind declared we will not go quietly into the night. We will not vanish without a fight. We will live on. We will survive.

The crowd erupts into applause and cheers. The President turns and walks over to an Officer holding a bundle of clothes. General Grey confronts the President as he begins to disrobe.

GENERAL GREY

Mr. President, just what do you
think you're you doing?

PRESIDENT

I'm a pilot, Will. This is where
I belong.

General Grey wants to argue but can't.

297 INT. STORAGE LAB - SAME

297

Constance and David embrace as Steve turns to Dylan.

STEVE

When I'm back we'll light those
fireworks.

Jasmine hugs them both as Moishe walks over to David.

MOISHE

David, take these.

David looks down at the "barf bags" in Moishe's hand.

DAVID

Thanks, Pops.

MOISHE

I want you should know, I'm very
proud of you, son.

That means more to David than Moishe could have known.

CONSTANCE

Be careful.

Constance hugs David as Steve suddenly freaks out.

STEVE

Damn it. We can't go yet. I
gotta find some cigars.

Steve is about to bolt when Moishe grabs him, retrieving two
cigars from his coat pocket.

MOISHE

My last two. With my blessings.

STEVE

You're a lifesaver.

Steve grabs them and climbs inside. David smiles awkwardly,
then follows Steve.

298 INT. ALIEN ATTACKER - CONTINUOUS

298

The hatch shuts and David takes a seat next to Steve who hands him one of the cigars.

STEVE

Hang on to this. For our victory dance. But not 'til we hear the fat lady sing.

Reluctantly David takes it. As he does Steve notices the "barf bags" on David's lap. Off Steve's look...

DAVID

I have a confession to make. I'm not real big on flying.

STEVE

Great.

299 INT. STORAGE LAB - SAME

299

Constance and Jasmine join the others behind the observation glass outside the room as the Attacker prepares for lift off.

Part of the ceiling suddenly PEELS AWAY, revealing an enormous SHAFT leading topside.

300 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ALIEN ATTACKER - SAME

300

Strapping in and securing their equipment, Steve grabs hold of the throttle.

STEVE

You ready? Let's rock and roll.

Steve pulls back on the throttle but the attacker swings BACKWARD.

301 INT. STORAGE LAB - SAME

301

The Alien Attacker SMASHES BACKWARD into the rear of the lab. Moishe winces as the others react fearfully.

302 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ALIEN ATTACKER - SAME

302

Embarrassed, Steve adjusts the throttle.

STEVE

Oops.

Like a stick shift diagram of a car, a small hand written "post it" card is pasted onto the dash. Steve reaches over and turns it upside down, righting the problem.

STEVE
Let's try that again.

This time he pushes the throttle forward and the Attacker JERKS ahead.

302A INT. STORAGE LAB - CONTINUOUS 302A

Shooting up into the ceiling shaft above, the Attacker ZOOMS out of the underground laboratory.

303 EXT. AREA 51 - SHAFT - SAME 303

With a WHOOSH the Alien Attacker ZOOMS out of the underground shaft and SOARS into the sky. Once high enough it goes into a wild barrel roll.

304 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ALIEN ATTACKER - SAME 304

Just as it comes out of the roll.

DAVID
What the hell are you doing?

STEVE
Just getting a feel for her.

305 EXT. MORNING SKIES - CLOUD BANK - SAME 305

The Attacker arcs upward and disappears into the clouds.

306 306
THRU OMITTED THRU
308 308

309 EXT. AREA 51 - THE PRESIDENT'S PLANE - SAME 309

The President watches the Attacker flying away. His canopy locks down as he adjusts his helmet.

PRESIDENT
Grey, you read me?

GENERAL GREY
(filtered)
Roger, Eagle One, our primary target has shifted course.

310 INT. WAR ROOM - SAME 310

General Grey is standing by the large map tracking the alien ships over the United States.

PRESIDENT
(filtered)
Where's it headed?

GENERAL GREY
I think our secret is out.
They're headed right for us.

311 INT. PRESIDENT'S PLANE - SAME

311

GENERAL GREY
(filtered)
ETA thirty six minutes.

The President gets a determined look in his eye. He FIRES UP his engine. Following his lead, engines ignite, canopies lock down and planes taxi to position.

312 EXT. UPPER ATMOSPHERE - ALIEN ATTACKER - SAME

312

The captured alien attacker soars higher and higher.

313 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER - SAME

313

Slowly getting sick, David holds onto his "barf bag."

STEVE
You still with me?

David nods sheepishly. Steve's eyes go wide with wonder as the ship climbs to the edge of our atmosphere.

STEVE
(to himself)
I've waited a long time for this.

The ship begins to SHAKE, rattling harshly as it climbs. Through the window we SEE the blue sky EVAPORATE. Slowly a field of STARS take its place.

This is the moment Steve had wished for all his life. He's not disappointed. David, however, is not so thrilled.

314 EXT. SPACE - STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER - SAME

314

Heading further out into space, ZOOMING overhead.

315 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER - SAME

315

Through the windshield we see a huge DARK OBJECT floating in the distance, the moon behind it.

DAVID
That's it. Head straight for it.

But Steve gets distracted, something wrong with the controls.

STEVE
Something's happening. It's not
responding.

David looks over at his laptop, connected to the ship's on
board computers. The signal is ADJUSTING.

DAVID
(thrilled)
I was counting on that. They're
bringing us in.

316 EXT. BLUE SKIES - MORNING

316

The President's plane leads thirty fighters in attack
formation.

PRESIDENT
We have visual.

317 REVERSE ANGLE - ALIEN SPACE CRAFT

317

The fifteen mile wide space craft peeks over a mountain range
headed straight for us.

GENERAL GREY
(filtered)
Do not engage until we've
confirmed the package has been
delivered.

PRESIDENT
Roger.

318 INT. WAR ROOM - SAME

318

Constance is standing by Lt. Mitchell behind the Military
cadre coordinating the battle.

CONSTANCE
What if that thing gets here
before we can plant the virus?

MITCHELL
The entire compound is buried deep
within the mountain. It should
give us some protection.

CONSTANCE
But what about all the people
outside?

Mitchell shoots her a worried look. Quickly they both dash
outside.

319 EXT. MOTHER SHIP - SAME

319

Steve and David's attacker flies towards the gigantic Mother Ship. Hundreds of other attackers flow in and out of the Mother Ship through the many triangular portals. Steve and David's attacker's drawn into one of the them.

320 INT. PORTAL SHAFT - MOTHER SHIP - SAME

320

Caught in a stream of attackers, they flow through the portal shaft leading into this planet sized space craft. They pass by enormous windows revealing the HUNDREDS OF ALIENS working within the Mother Ship.

We spill out of the shaft and into an gigantic cavity stretching out beyond visibility. Enormous TOWERS are scattered throughout.

321 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER - CONTINUOUS

321

Neither can believe their eyes. Staring out the front window they SEE...

321A STEVE & DAVID'S P.O.V. ALIEN TROOP PARADE GROUND

321A

Below them THOUSANDS OF ALIENS can be seen as they are marched into dozens of enormous TROOP CONTAINERS docked at the edges of the parade grounds.

DAVID

Must be thousands of them. What are they doing?

STEVE

Looks like they're preparing the invasion.

322 INT. DOCKING STATIONS - MOTHER SHIP - CONTINUOUS

322

They pass the parade ground and head into the middle of this huge cavernous sphere, closing in on the many LANDINGS. Hundreds of attackers are docked at each one.

In the center of the Landing are large BAY WINDOWS, inside is a kind of control tower. We can SEE several ALIEN WORKERS through the glass. Steve and David's attacker is heading straight towards them.

STEVE

This won't work. They'll see before we can do anything.

Lifting up another hand written card labeled "window", David pushes the button underneath.

DAVID

These things are fully equipped.
Reclining bucket seats, power
windows...

A BLAST SHIELD lowers covering the window.

Slowly Steve and David's attacker lowers onto large docking
CLAMPS which LOCK ON, holding it in place.

The craft ROCKS as the clamps LOCK. David slides over to his
laptop, checking the signal. The screen's readout completely
changes as the signal switches direction.

DAVID

We're in!

David starts typing frantically.

323 OMITTED

323

324 INT. WAR ROOM - SAME

324

Mitchell turns from one of the consoles to General Grey.

MITCHELL

He's uploading the virus.

GENERAL GREY

(into mic)

Eagle One...

325 EXT. BLUE SKIES - SAME

325

The Presidential attack squadron zeroing in on target.

GENERAL GREY

(filtered)

...the package is being delivered.
Stand by to engage.

PRESIDENT

Roger.

326 EXT. AREA 51 - BRENNON TRAILER - SAME

326

Alicia struggles to drag out a large duffel bag. Philip (the
boy who brought the penicillin earlier) rushes over.

PHILIP

Let me get that.

He grabs the bag for her. Alicia smiles. Miguel helps Troy
down from the trailer. As they rush away, Miguel turns to
Philip.

MIGUEL
Where's Russell?

327 ANGLE - HANGAR - ENTRANCE TO COMPOUND 327

Constance, Jasmine and Mitchell are helping to usher the refugees into the compound.

CONSTANCE
Hurry, we've got to get everyone inside.

Constance looks up and SEES off in the distance...

328 THE ALIEN SPACE SHIP 328

Piercing the horizon, coming over the top of a distant mountain. Headed this way.

329 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER - SAME 329

David finishes typing. The screen on his laptop flashes:
UPLOAD COMPLETE.

DAVID
The virus is in. All we can do now is pray.

330 EXT. BLUE SKIES - AMERICAN FIGHTERS - SAME 330

GENERAL GREY
(filtered)
Delivery complete. Engage.

PRESIDENT
Roger.

The fighter jets GUN IT and overtake the smaller planes in front of them.

Below the President's plane the weapons bay door opens and a long range AMRAAM Missile DROPS DOWN, computes its target and DARTS OFF.

331 INT. WAR ROOM - SAME 331

Mitchell and General Grey move over to a monitor showing visual from the President's Plane. They SEE the missile moving towards target.

GENERAL GREY
Keep your fingers crossed.

332 EXT. AMERICAN FIGHTERS - SAME 332

The pilots watch nervously as the missile nears its target.

PRESIDENT

Come on, baby.

333 ANGLE - AMRAAM MISSILE 333

Just as it gets to the shield perimeter, the missile EXPLODES.
The shields are still up.

334 INT. WAR ROOM - SAME 334

They watch the missile blow up harmlessly. Deflated, General Grey grabs the Mic.

GENERAL GREY

It didn't work. Disengage. Sir,
get your people out of there.

335 EXT. PRESIDENT'S PLANE - SAME 335

The President is not ready to give up.

PRESIDENT

Not yet!

Below his plane another MISSILE drops down, and DARTS OFF.

336 OMITTED 336

337 ANGLE - MISSILE 337

This one goes past the point of the previous explosion. It moves in closer and closer. Suddenly it HITS THE SIDE OF THE SHIP. A HUGE EXPLOSION, rips off a part of the side of this immense ship.

338 INT. WAR ROOM - SAME 338

We SEE the explosion on the monitor. Everyone in the room CHEERS.

GENERAL GREY

You did it! A direct hit!

339 EXT. BLUE SKIES - AMERICAN FIGHTERS - SAME 339

The pilots are thrilled.

PRESIDENT

We're going in! Squadron leaders,
take point.

The fighter break off into six groups of five. One by one, each fighter DROPS A MISSILE. We follow DOZENS of MISSILES on their way to the space craft.

340 ANGLE - SPACE CRAFT 340

The Attacker Bay doors open and DOZENS OF ALIEN ATTACKERS shoot out, spreading wide.

Guided missiles EXPLODE as they hit the City Destroyer, damaging the outer hull. The Attackers go after the American fighters. The six groups split wide. An aerial dog fight ensues.

341 EXT. AREA 51 - REFUGEE CAMP - SAME 341

Miguel searches for Russell as the refugees run for the hangar.

MIGUEL

Russell!

Miguel gets swept up in the tide. As the last of them enter the hangar, TWO ALIEN ATTACKERS arrive behind them, STRAFING the ground. The rows of trailer homes EXPLODE one after another.

342 ANGLE - ELEVATOR HALLWAY - BACK OF HANGAR 342

Constance ushers the crowd into the elevator hallway. Packed into the hallway together, they are panicked at the sound of the nearby explosions. As the last one is safely inside, Constance turns back and SEES...

343 CONSTANCE'S P.O.V. - HANGAR AND ATTACKERS 343

The attackers FIRE and the front half of the hangar EXPLODES. Constance is KNOCKED back against the wall. She activates the elevator and the room begins to SINK.

As the hallway submerges, the entire hangar comes CRASHING DOWN behind them.

344 INT. WAR ROOM - SAME 344

Over monitors the General observes the aerial battle. This room, too, ROCKS from the explosions. The monitors FLICKER.

345 OMITTED 345

346 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER - SAME 346

Steve struggles with the controls but is getting no where.

DAVID
Get us out of here!

STEVE
I can't shake her free.

347 EXT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER - SAME 347

Though the attacker guns its engines, the CLAMPS below HOLD TIGHT.

348 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER - SAME 348

David moves over to the computer to see if he can help. Suddenly the large window slowly begins to DROP DOWN.

STEVE
What're you doing?

DAVID
It's not me. They're overriding the system.

The blast shield continues to peel away. David and Steve drop down below the dash, hiding from view. As the view becomes unobstructed we SEE..

349 P.O.V - THROUGH WINDOW - THE LANDING 349

Several Alien's looking across at us from the large bay windows of the Landing's control tower.

STEVE
Damn!

David leans from his hiding position and SEES several other alien attackers are moving in on them. They are surrounded. David sits back down.

DAVID
Check and mate.

350 350
THRU OMITTED THRU
353 353

354 INT. AREA 51 - RESEARCH FACILITY - SAME 354

Like images from England during the blitzkrieg, the refugees are huddled on the floor, the lights FLICKERING and the muted sounds of distant EXPLOSIONS. Miguel moves through the refugees, searching for Russell.

A Yarmulke is unfolded. As it is lifted we realize Moishe is putting it on. He holds the hands with the people around him and begins to pray. Nimziki moves next to Moishe. Moishe takes his hand.

NIMZIKI

I'm not Jewish.

MOISHE

It's okay.

355 ANGLE - PHILIP AND ALICIA

355

As another bomb rocks the room, Alicia moves closer to Philip.

ALICIA

This could be our last night on Earth. I don't want to die a virgin.

PHILIP

If we do, we'll both die virgins. But at least we'll be together.

Alicia melts, a nice guy at last.

356 EXT. AREA 51 - SPACE SHIP - SAME

356

The City Destroyer space ship is settling just above the compound as the American fighters circle it, chased by the attackers. Below the SCHISM begins to open!

357
THRU OMITTED
360

357
THRU
360

361 INT. WAR ROOM - SAME

361

In all the commotion, no one notices as Miguel sneaks inside.

OFFICER

We're running out of missiles, Sir. We're just not causing enough damage.

362 EXT. PRESIDENT'S PLANE - SAME

362

GENERAL GREY

(filtered)

They're getting ready to fire the big gun. You're going to have to find a vulnerable spot, fast.

PRESIDENT

I've got an idea. Keep 'em off my tail.

Taking the advice, the President DIVES. He's met by two flanking Fighters (EAGLES 9 & 2) as they cruise the underbelly of the City Destroyer. Sure enough, the SCHISM is opening, preparing to fire the WALL OF DESTRUCTION.

PRESIDENT

Let's take 'em out before they take us out.

The President locks the SCHISM hatchway into the center of his HUD (heads up display). Just as he FIRES, Eagle 9 is BLOWN OUT OF THE SKY. It rocks the President, sending his missile off target.

Off balance, the missile hits just wide of the hatchway and EXPLODES, rocking the entire ship.

PRESIDENT

I'm out of missiles! Eagle 2?

EAGLE #2 PILOT

I'm on it.

But before he can target, his fighter EXPLODES.

363		363
THRU	OMITTED	THRU
366		366

367	INT. HALLWAYS - SAME	367
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The lights continue to flicker. Jasmine grabs onto Dylan and Patricia, holding them tight.

368	EXT. CITY DESTROYER - SAME	368
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The remaining fighters are locked in a massive dog fight with the attackers. The SCHISM is fully opened and the BRIGHT LIGHTS begin to build in intensity.

369	INT. WAR ROOM - CONTINUOUS	369
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On the monitor we SEE the SCHISM, and BRIGHT LIGHTS as several fighters fly past.

GENERAL GREY

We're out of time. Get out of there! Get as far away as you can.

369A EXT. PRESIDENT'S FIGHTER - SAME

Pissed, the President refuses to give up.

PRESIDENT
Doesn't anyone have any damned
missiles left?!

RUSSELL (O.S.)
Sorry I'm late, Mr. President.

The President spins and SEES darting out of the clouds...

370 RUSSELL'S OLD BI-PLANE

370

Russell ZOOMS past the President and alien attackers, barely
missing their FIRE.

PRESIDENT
(filtered)
Who is that? What are you doing?

RUSSELL
(into mic)
It's okay, Sir. I'm packin'.

We SEE he has a large MISSILE propped up in the seat behind
him. A light on it flashes ARMED.

370A INT. WAR ROOM - SAME

370A

RUSSELL
(filtered)
Just keep those guys off me for a
few more seconds.

Hearing his voice, Miguel is shocked. He moves closer towards
the monitors.

370B EXT. CITY DESTROYER - SAME

370B

The remaining fighters lay down COVER FIRE for Russell's old
bi-wing. Russell heads directly TOWARDS THE SCHISM.

371 INT. WAR ROOM - SAME

371

Everyone is gripped to the screen as we see it get closer and
closer to the closing bay doors. Miguel is aghast.

RUSSELL
(filtered)
Do me one favor...

OFFICER
Who is that guy?

MIGUEL
Russell!

Miguel races over to the microphone, attempts to grab it.

RUSSELL
(filtered)
...tell my children I love them
very much.

372 EXT. CITY DESTROYER - SCHISM - SAME

372

Russell nears the SCHISM, a hail of alien firepower erupting around him.

MIGUEL
(filtered)
Dad! No!

Russell smiles at being called "Dad."

RUSSELL
I've got to, kid. You were always
better at taking care of them than
I was anyways.

Russell turns off his radio as he banks UPWARDS towards the open SCHISM. The climb is steep, and the bi-wing nearly stalls out.

Suddenly the bright lights VANISH and the beam begins to form.

Russell's bi-wing just makes it INSIDE THE OPEN SCHISM and disappears from view.

The President and remaining fighters BANK AWAY, clearing.

Suddenly a GIGANTIC EXPLOSION, RIPS THROUGH THE CENTER OF THE SPACE CRAFT. It's causing a CHAIN REACTION of explosions.

Teetering, the entire space ship, turns away out of control.

373
THRU OMITTED
374

373
THRU
374

375 INT. WAR ROOM - SAME

375

The room erupts in CHEERS. Everyone, that is, except Miguel.

376 EXT. MOUNTAIN RANGE - SAME

376

Not far away from area 51, the enormous craft is burning from the center outwards. Suddenly it DROPS and COLLIDES with the mountain range, EXPLODING ON IMPACT.

377 INT. WAR ROOM - SAME

377

Interrupting the celebration, General Grey moves over to a radio technician.

GENERAL GREY

Let's get on the wire. Tell every
squadron around the world how to
shoot those fuckers down.

378 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ALIEN ATTACKER - SAME

378

Sitting below the dash, Steve takes out the cigars, hands one to David.

STEVE

I guess there's nothing left to
do. Let's nuke 'em.

David realizes they're both about to die. He stares at the cigar.

DAVID

(re: cigar)
Funny, I always thought things
like these would kill me.

They share a quick sober laugh.

STEVE

Nice meeting you.

DAVID

You as well.

Steve lights his cigar, then lights David's.

STEVE

Ready?

379 EXT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ALIEN ATTACKER - SAME

379

Popping up from behind the dash, cigars in their mouths, Steve and David start waving "goodbye" like idiots.

The Aliens in the tower don't know how to react. The attackers move in for the kill.

380 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER - SAME 380

STEVE
Think they know what's coming?

He reaches down to the black box we saw before and enters the launch code.

DAVID
(still waving)
Not a chance in hell.

381 EXT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER - SAME 381

Suddenly the missile ERUPTS from behind the manifold and BLASTS into the control tower, SHATTERING THE GLASS WINDOW.

382 INT. CONTROL TOWER - CONTINUOUS 382

The missile SMASHES through the glass. The atmosphere impeached, the aliens quickly succumb to the elements, choking and dying.

The missile BLASTS by WRECKING equipment until it LODGES into the back wall of the Landing tower.

A small counter on the missile begins to count down 30:00, 29:00, 28:00...

383 EXT. DOCKING CLAMPS - SAME 383

Rocked from the explosion, the docking clamps RELEASE and the ships jostles free.

384 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER - SAME 384

Steve grabs the controls.

STEVE
We're loose!

DAVID
Doesn't matter. Game's over.

STEVE
I don't hear no fat lady.

Steve THROTTLES IT. The craft JOLTS AWAY.

385 EXT. DOCKING STATION - SAME 385

Steve and David's attacker BLASTS away, the other alien attackers follow in hot pursuit.

The attackers FIRE. Steve SWERVES avoiding the blasts as they race for the exit.

386 INT. LANDING - CONTROL TOWER - SAME 386

Grasping for breath, a dying Alien looks up at the wedged in nuclear missile. The counter reads: 00:04, 00:03, 00:02.

We get the feeling the Alien knows what's coming.

387 INT. DOCKING BAY - SAME 387

Steve and David's attacker just reaches the doorway as the center of the landing EXPLODES behind them.

The enormous impact, rocks some of the lagging attackers off track.

388 EXT. MOTHER SHIP - SAME 388

Steve DARTS his attacker out from underneath the Mother Ship's belly. A group of attackers FOLLOW.

Just as the last of them exit the docking bay, a HUGE FIREBALL erupts behind them ripping through the Mother Ship.

389 ANGLE - FARTHER AWAY 389

ZOOMING towards us, Steve guides his ship away. The Alien attackers in hot pursuit. Behind them we SEE the ENTIRE MOTHERSHIP EXPLODE.

The immense EXPLOSION GROWS OUTWARDS coming right at us. The ATTACKERS are GOBBLED UP as the EXPLOSION WIDENS. Quickly the explosion gains ground on Steve and David.

390 ANGLE - STEVE AND DAVID'S SHIP 390

Like a loose board caught in the surf, Steve and David's ship rides the edge of the explosion, getting knocked END OVER END.

391 INT. STEVE AND DAVID'S ATTACKER 391

Tumbling ass over tea kettle, David and Steve are ROCKED in their seats. Steve battles to regain control of the ship.

392 EXT. STEVE AND DAVID'S SHIP 392

The mammoth fireball reaches the outer edge of its zenith. Steve and David's ship is SPIT OUT, tumbling down towards EARTH.

393
THRU OMITTED 393
396 THRU 396

397 EXT. AREA 51 - TARMAC - SAME 397

The fighters are returning home. Crowds RACE out of the ruins of the smoldering compound to greet them, cheering their arrival.

398 THE PRESIDENT'S PLANE 398

The President is climbing out as General Grey rushes to his aid. Behind him, Jasmine leads Dylan and Patricia, who breaks free and RUSHES to her father. The President sweeps her up in his arms as Jasmine approaches.

JASMINE
(to General Grey)
Any word from Steve?

Behind her, Constance rushes over, the same thing on her mind. Before he can answer they HEAR a ROAR above. They all become silent as the turn and look to the skies.

399 ANGLE - BLUE SKIES - FIREBALL 399

The FIREBALL COMET is rapidly shooting down towards us. Suddenly BURSTING OUT OF THE FLAMES, Steve and David's ship DARTS DOWN.

Just over the heads of the cheering crowds, Steve and David's ship ZOOMS overhead, disappearing out of sight

400 EXT. DRY LAKE - DESERT - MINUTES LATER 400

Several army JEEPS race across the arid desert floor. As they WHIP past we see they are headed towards a gigantic BLACK PLUME OF SMOKE in the distance.

401 ANGLE - PLUME OF SMOKE 401

The Jeeps SKID to a halt. Jasmine and Constance are the first to leap off the Jeeps.

Steve and David walk towards us, cigars in their mouths. Jasmine races over to him.

JASMINE
You scared the hell out of me.

STEVE
Yeah, but what an entrance!

JASMINE

Dick-weed.

STEVE

Butt-munch.

Constance comes running up to David, hugs him tightly.

CONSTANCE

Are you all right?

DAVID

Did it work?

CONSTANCE

You bet it did.

She hugs him. They kiss.

402 ANGLE - STEVE AND JASMINE

402

Behind them Dylan, Patricia, the President and General Grey come walking over. The President and General Grey approach.

PRESIDENT

We're getting reports from all over. Their ships are going down!

As they begin to celebrate, they look up to the sky.

403 GROUP P.O.V. - BRILLIANT LIGHTS IN THE SKIES

403

The debris from the Mother Ship explosion enters the atmosphere like thousands of SHOOTING STARS. It's an incredible sight.

The group stares happily at the show in the sky. Steve takes Dylan by the hand.

STEVE

Didn't I promise you fireworks?

Everyone stares in wonder at the beautiful lights.

404
THRU OMITTED
407

404
THRU
407

THE END